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Thursday, January 8, 2009

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Vol 1 Issue 50

# County Voice.ca

**TAKE A  
LOOK  
INSIDE  
THE YEAR IN  
REVIEW**

Beginning on Page 7



Gord Kidd and The 50/50 Rockin Country Band welcomes in the New Year in Minden. More pics on pg. 6.

## Skies Light Up at Minden's New Year's Eve Bash

Many Events to Come for Minden's  
150th Anniversary

Mark Arike  
Staff Reporter

By bundling up and drinking copious amounts of hot chocolate, children and their families attempted to stay warm for an evening of celebrations on New Year's Eve in Minden.

And not only did the night mark the start of 2009, it also kicked off a full of year of celebrations for Minden's 150th anniversary.

For the first time in the town, many festivities were held at and around the Minden Community Centre for New Year's Eve. Some of the activities and attractions offered to the public included horse wagon rides, a free public skate, a bonfire with Christmas trees and a countdown that led to a spectacular firework show manned by members of the Minden fire department. The 1st Minden Scout Group also helped to light up the night skies as they walked from the bridge on Bobcaygeon Rd. to the community centre in a torchlight parade.

New Year's Eve Bash cont'd... pg.6 ...

## OMB Watercolours Hearing to Start Today

Liz Daniels  
Staff Reporter

The fate of the Watercolours Condominium in Dysart et al will be decided this week as the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) hearing gets set to proceed today, January 8th. Two days have been allotted for the hearing, where the Board will consider changes being proposed to Dysart's zoning by-law, the impacts they could have on the community and whether those changes are consistent with the community's Official Plan. There is no doubt that much will depend on the OMB's decision.

The seniors' condominium development, planned for the old Sir Sandford College campus site, will offer 150 upscale units intended for the aging population in Haliburton and area. A full spectrum of services will be available to residents of the building and even though the units are not yet available for sale, over sixty percent of them have already been pre-registered (or reserved).

The project received overwhelming support from residents in attendance at the public meeting held last July when amendments to Dysart's zoning by-law were proposed to allow the project to move forward. Many of those present were already on the waiting list hoping to be able to purchase a unit and spoke in favour of the project. At the same time, however, a handful of residents voiced strong concerns.

Support for the project won the day and the Dysart Council approved the zoning amendments. But on the last day of the official



appeal period, Alison Mack, who lives on Maple Avenue several hundred metres from the proposed development submitted an appeal, thereby setting the hearing process in motion.

Although they have openly stated that they are not in opposition to the project, Mack and a number of other concerned citizens (who have formed a group called the Haliburton Condo Concern

or HCC) have been speaking out about the development in efforts to raise public awareness in the community about possible impacts the development could have in a number of areas.

Concerns have been raised about the impact of increased traffic, the number of units being proposed, occupancy standards, obstructed views of the lake, the right to light and the height of the building and its affect on the long term growth of the community. The building height exceeds the maximum allowable height in Dysart's zoning by-law and Mack and others are concerned that this is the beginning of things to come. Other areas at issue are the handling of water and sewage, possible damage to neighbouring buildings from drilling and blasting and the challenges that the development could pose to essential services.

Without taking away from concerns being raised about the development, the ramifications if it does not proceed could also be significant. The Watercolours Group, including Symbol Communities and the Mady Development Corporation, has already done extensive work and is required as part of its agreement with Dysart et al to meet a number of conditions and conduct several studies including traffic and hydro-geological reports, not to mention having to receive approvals from a number of other governing agencies.

Watercolours Hearing cont'd... pg.7...

The Year  
In Review Photos  
... pg. 10

Thank You  
Captain  
Beatty.. pg. 5

Minden's  
New Year's  
Eve Bash ...  
pg. 6

**Inside  
This  
Issue**

**Century 21**  
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of County Voice.

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# Fleming College

## CONTINUING EDUCATION

**Spanish II**  
starts Wednesday January 12th

**Ontario Building Code -  
General Legal**  
starts Monday January 12th

**Bookkeeping for Small  
Business**  
starts Thursday January 15th

**Pottery for Beginners**  
starts January 26th

**Introduction to Computers I**  
Thursday January 29th  
**Introduction to Computers II**  
Thursday February 5th  
**Introduction to Computers III**  
Thursday February 12th

**Microsoft Excel I**  
Tuesday February 3rd  
**Microsoft Excel II**  
Tuesday February 10th  
**Microsoft Excel III**  
Tuesday February 17th

**Effective Public Speaking**  
starts Tuesday Feb 3rd

**Conversational French II**  
starts Tuesday February 3rd

**Youth Pottery (10-16yrs)**  
Starts Tuesday February 3rd

**Kids Handbuilding Pottery  
(5-9yrs)**  
starts Saturday Feb 7th

**Ontario Building Code -  
Small Buildings**  
starts Monday February 9th

**Youth Pottery (10-16yrs)**  
starts Tuesday February 3rd

**Quickbooks Pro**  
starts Thursday February 12th

**Glassblowing Workshop**  
Saturday February 21st

**Adobe Photoshop**  
Saturday February 21st

**Microsoft Word I**  
Tuesday February 24th  
**Microsoft Word II**  
Tuesday March 3rd  
**Microsoft Word III**  
Tuesday March 10th

**Clay Tiles - Decoration and  
Illustration**  
starts Thursday February 26th

**Ontario Building Code -  
On-site Sewage Systems**  
starts Monday March 2nd

CONTACT FLEMING COLLEGE TO REGISTER OR FOR INFORMATION  
705-457-1680 www.flemingcollege.com

## No Injuries in Monday Morning Rollover

### Woman Unable to Keep Vehicle Right-Side-Up on Glamorgan Rd.

Mark Arike  
Staff Reporter

The driver of a Ford Escape was able to walk away from her vehicle unharmed after it rolled over on Glamorgan Rd. in Haliburton on Monday morning.

OPP officers, EMS personnel and Dysart et al firefighters all responded to the single vehicle accident that took place around 11 a.m.

According to OPP Const. Ken Jones, slippery road conditions were the likely cause of the incident. The driver lost control of her vehicle while travelling

down Glamorgan Rd. as she headed to the Village of Haliburton.

Charges are unlikely to be laid against the driver, Krishnaveni Govender, of Peterborough.



## BREAK AND ENTER

Haliburton, ON.) - Officers from the Haliburton Highlands Detachment are investigating a break and enter that occurred between December 29th - 30th 2008 at the residence of Dysart Councillor Janis Parker on Wilkinson Road on Kennis Lake.

The suspects forced their way into a garage on the property and stole two 2008 Ski-Doo 600 MXZ's yellow in colour bearing Ont Lic# 980666 and 980668. One of the machines was equipped

with a marine style compass. Ms. Parker is offering a reward for anyone who has information that might lead to the return of the snowmobiles.

Anyone with information on this occurrence can call the O.P.P. Communications Centre at 1-888-310-1122 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS, or the local OPP office at 286-1431. ■

## House For Rent



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# DRIVERS CHARGED



(Haliburton, ON.)—Officers from the Haliburton Highlands Detachment charged two drivers with alcohol related Criminal Code driving offences over the last three days.

On Friday January 2, 2009 shortly before 6:00pm, officers were called to a report of a motor vehicle collision on Highway #35 near the Fire House restaurant in Algonquin Highlands Township. Officers attended the scene and found a Dodge pickup truck on its roof. The driver of the vehicle was transported by ambulance to the Minden hospital where he was treated and released for non-life threatening injuries.

The driver of the Dodge, Allan Green 39 years of Peterborough has been charged with Impaired Driving and Drive Over 80 contrary to the Criminal Code of Canada. Mr. Green will be appearing in Minden court on March 4, 2009 in relation to the charges.

On Saturday January 3, 2009, shortly before 7:00pm officers from the Haliburton Highlands Detachment responded to a report of a vehicle in the ditch on the Barry Line in the Township of Dysart et al.

Officers arrived at the scene and commenced an investigation. As a result of that investigation Michael Gunning 34 years of Dysart et al has been charged with Impaired Care or Control, Refuse to Provide Breath Sample (contrary to the Criminal Code of Canada) and Drive while under suspension contrary to the Highway Traffic Act.

Mr. Gunning will be appearing in Minden court on March 4, 2009 in relation to the charges. ■

## THURSDAY



Breezy with light snow

▲ -7° ▼ -15°

## FRIDAY



Mostly cloudy with flurries

▲ -9° ▼ -14°

## SATURDAY



A.M. light snow, then P.M. flurries

▲ -5° ▼ -10°

## SUNDAY



Chance of snow showers

▲ -9° ▼ -12°

## MONDAY



Chance of light snow in the afternoon

▲ -8° ▼ -13°

## TUESDAY



Chance of light snow

▲ -7° ▼ -13°

## WEDNESDAY



Mostly cloudy with a few flurries

▲ -10° ▼ -18°

**AROUND THE REGION:** A cold and snowy period is on tap for the region for the next few days. On Thursday, it will breezy and cold with light snow likely. Highs will be in the single digits below zero. Even colder weather is likely on Friday as a few flurries will fly through the air. Highs will be in the teens below zero. Occasional light snow and flurries will be likely through the weekend.

### Your Unofficial Lotto Numbers

**LOTTO 649**

Jan 03, 2009

04 13 17 25 36 48

Bonus Number 28

Encore 9690930

**SUPER 7**

Jan 02, 2009

04 13 19 30 32 35 38

Bonus Number 16

Encore 2963800

### TROPICAL CITIES

| City       | Today<br>Hi/Low/Outk | Friday<br>Hi/Low/Outk | Saturday<br>Hi/Low/Outk | City            | Today<br>Hi/Low/Outk | Friday<br>Hi/Low/Outk | Saturday<br>Hi/Low/Outk |
|------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Acapulco   | 31/22/pc             | 32/21/pc              | 32/21/su                | Montego Bay     | 29/23/pc             | 29/23/pc              | 28/23/sh                |
| Antigua    | 30/24/su             | 31/24/su              | 29/23/dz                | Nassau          | 27/21/ts             | 26/19/su              | 25/21/su                |
| Barbados   | 30/24/sh             | 31/25/pc              | 29/26/ts                | Port au Prince  | 29/23/ts             | 29/23/ts              | 29/24/cl                |
| Bermuda    | 23/16/ts             | 19/13/pc              | 22/16/su                | Puerto Vallarta | 29/14/su             | 29/15/su              | 29/16/su                |
| Cancun     | 30/22/pc             | 31/22/su              | 28/22/su                | St Thomas       | 30/24/ts             | 31/24/su              | 28/26/cl                |
| Curacao    | 31/25/pc             | 31/26/pc              | 29/23/ts                | St Maarten      | 30/23/su             | 30/24/su              | 29/25/dz                |
| Freeport   | 26/19/su             | 25/18/su              | 26/20/su                | San Jose, CR    | 29/18/ts             | 27/19/ts              | 28/18/cl                |
| Georgetown | 31/25/ts             | 31/26/pc              | 30/23/ts                | San Juan        | 29/23/ts             | 30/24/su              | 28/26/pc                |
| Havana     | 28/22/pc             | 27/21/su              | 25/17/su                | San Salvador    | 32/22/pc             | 32/23/cl              | 31/21/cl                |
| Key West   | 27/22/su             | 26/18/su              | 24/18/su                | Santo Domingo   | 29/23/ts             | 29/23/pc              | 30/23/su                |
| Kingston   | 29/23/pc             | 30/23/pc              | 28/25/sh                | Trinidad        | 32/26/pc             | 31/26/pc              | 31/26/sh                |

### REGIONAL CITIES

| City       | Today<br>Hi/Low/Outk | Friday<br>Hi/Low/Outk | Saturday<br>Hi/Low/Outk | Sunday<br>Hi/Low/Outk | Monday<br>Hi/Low/Outk | Tuesday<br>Hi/Low/Outk | Wednesday<br>Hi/Low/Outk |
|------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Bancroft   | -7/-15/sn            | -9/-15/cl             | -5/-10/sn               | -9/-12/sn             | -8/-13/sf             | -7/-13/sn              | -10/-18/cl               |
| Barrie     | -6/-14/sn            | -8/-13/cl             | -4/-9/sn                | -9/-12/sn             | -8/-13/sf             | -6/-12/sn              | -9/-18/cl                |
| Dorset     | -7/-16/sn            | -9/-14/cl             | -5/-11/sn               | -9/-13/sn             | -8/-14/sf             | -7/-13/sn              | -10/-19/cl               |
| Haliburton | -7/-15/sn            | -9/-14/cl             | -5/-10/sn               | -9/-12/sn             | -8/-13/sf             | -7/-13/sn              | -10/-18/cl               |
| Huntsville | -7/-16/sn            | -9/-14/cl             | -5/-11/sn               | -9/-12/sn             | -8/-14/sf             | -7/-13/sn              | -10/-19/cl               |
| Kingston   | -5/-14/sn            | -8/-8/cl              | -3/-9/sn                | -8/-11/sn             | -7/-12/sf             | -6/-12/sn              | -8/-17/cl                |
| Lindsay    | -6/-14/sn            | -8/-13/cl             | -4/-9/sn                | -9/-12/sn             | -8/-13/sf             | -6/-12/sn              | -9/-18/cl                |
| Minden     | -7/-15/sn            | -9/-14/cl             | -5/-10/sn               | -9/-12/sn             | -8/-13/sf             | -7/-13/sn              | -10/-18/cl               |
| Oshawa     | -4/-14/sn            | -8/-13/cl             | -3/-8/sn                | -8/-10/sn             | -7/-12/sf             | -4/-11/sn              | -8/-16/cl                |
| Ottawa     | -7/-14/sn            | -9/-18/cl             | -7/-13/sn               | -10/-15/sf            | -8/-13/sn             | -4/-13/sn              | -11/-18/cl               |
| Toronto    | -4/-14/sn            | -7/-12/cl             | -3/-8/sn                | -7/-10/sn             | -6/-11/sf             | -4/-10/sn              | -8/-16/cl                |

### NATIONAL CITIES

| City        | Today<br>Hi/Low/Outk | Friday<br>Hi/Low/Outk | Saturday<br>Hi/Low/Outk | Sunday<br>Hi/Low/Outk | Monday<br>Hi/Low/Outk | Tuesday<br>Hi/Low/Outk | Wednesday<br>Hi/Low/Outk |
|-------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Calgary     | 2/-21/sf             | -5/-13/cl             | 4/-13/cl                | 1/-8/pc               | -1/-8/sf              | -1/-8/sn               | -3/-10/sn                |
| Edmonton    | -15/-26/sf           | -21/-27/cl            | -4/-18/sf               | -1/-9/sf              | -6/-9/cl              | -7/-12/sn              | -8/-15/sn                |
| Fredericton | -3/-11/sn            | -8/-15/sf             | -7/-14/sf               | -7/-14/sn             | -8/-16/cl             | -6/-13/cl              | -8/-17/sn                |
| Halifax     | 1/-5/sf              | -4/-12/cl             | -3/-6/sf                | 4/-4/sn               | -7/-7/sf              | -4/-5/cl               | -2/-7/sn                 |
| Montreal    | -8/-15/sf            | -9/-19/cl             | -9/-14/sf               | -9/-13/sn             | -11/-16/sf            | -9/-15/sn              | -12/-19/cl               |
| Regina      | -4/-17/sn            | -13/-22/pc            | -9/-23/cl               | 1/-13/sf              | -7/-14/cl             | -7/-13/sn              | -8/-16/sn                |
| St. John's  | 6/-4/mx              | -1/-9/cl              | 1/-1/su                 | 4/-1/mx               | 1/-1/cl               | 3/-1/pc                | 3/-2/mx                  |
| Saskatoon   | -11/-21/sn           | -18/-23/pc            | -7/-26/cl               | 1/-9/sn               | -13/-17/cl            | -15/-22/sn             | -17/-24/sn               |
| Vancouver   | 7/-1/sh              | 5/2/pc                | 6/0/ra                  | 7/2/cl                | 6/1/mx                | 7/2/su                 | 8/2/su                   |
| Whitehorse  | -33/-37/cl           | -5/-12/sn             | -5/-12/sn               | -5/-12/sn             | -7/-14/sn             | -4/-13/sn              | -7/-14/sn                |
| Winnipeg    | -13/-21/cl           | -14/-28/sn            | -22/-23/cl              | -8/-30/sn             | -3/-12/sf             | -12/-23/pc             | -18/-25/pc               |

### AREA ALMANAC

|                 | High  | Low   | Prec.  |
|-----------------|-------|-------|--------|
| Last seven days |       |       |        |
| Monday 1/5      | -4°C  | -8°C  | 0.0 mm |
| Sunday 1/4      | -6°C  | -21°C | 0.0 mm |
| Saturday 1/3    | -6°C  | -15°C | 0.0 mm |
| Friday 1/2      | -1°C  | -9°C  | 0.0 mm |
| Thursday 1/1    | -9°C  | -27°C | 0.0 mm |
| Wednesday 12/31 | -10°C | -16°C | 0.0 mm |
| Tuesday 12/30   | -8°C  | -12°C | 0.0 mm |

Readings from Haliburton/Stanhope Airport  
www.stanhopeairport.com

Forecasts, graphs and data  
provided by Weather Central,  
Inc., Madison, Wis. © 2009

### SUN & MOON

|                           | Sunrise/set         | Moonrise/set |
|---------------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Thu. 7:52 a.m./4:50 p.m.  | 1:54 p.m./5:31 a.m. |              |
| Fri. 7:51 a.m./4:52 p.m.  | 3:02 p.m./6:40 a.m. |              |
| Sat. 7:51 a.m./4:53 p.m.  | 4:21 p.m./7:37 a.m. |              |
| Sun. 7:51 a.m./4:54 p.m.  | 5:46 p.m./8:21 a.m. |              |
| Mon. 7:50 a.m./4:55 p.m.  | 7:09 p.m./8:54 a.m. |              |
| Tues. 7:50 a.m./4:56 p.m. | 8:29 p.m./9:21 a.m. |              |
| Wed. 7:49 a.m./4:58 p.m.  | 9:45 p.m./9:43 a.m. |              |

| Full    | Last    | New     | First  |
|---------|---------|---------|--------|
| Jan. 10 | Jan. 17 | Jan. 26 | Feb. 2 |

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### ASKING \$549,000



Check out this spectacular building lot on the West Shore of KENNISIS Lake. 298 ft of frontage on 3.5 acres of well treed land. This lot is fairly level with many building sites to choose from. Great open big lake view. Enjoy the sun all day with the south easterly view. Driveway installed. Hydro and Bell at lot line also high speed available.

Gloria Curachan or Cindy Macneil \* 754-1932

### KUSHOG LAKE - \$275,000



304 feet of frontage and 3.8 acres direct level waterfront parcel on prestigious Kushog Lake. Clean sand shoreline with deep water, superb municipal paved access with ample private parking, wonderful lake chain with loads of boating / fishing / winter opportunities. Neat & clean 4 season 3 bedroom, 2 bath, open concept home / cottage.

Anthony vanLieshout\*\* 457-2414 ext 27

### HAPPY NEW YEAR!



Here's to  
A Happy  
and Healthy  
2009!

Lindsay Elder \*\* 286-1234

### GRASS LAKE - \$350,000



Prime Haliburton Village direct waterfront home on prestigious 5 lake chain. Nice gently sloping lot with superb yr rd municipal access off dead end rd - ample parking. Custom built brick 3 bd, 2 washroom home on a full, partially fin. bsmt & w/ an att. dble gar. connected by a breezeway.

Patti & Hal Johnson \*\* 236-1234 ext 238

### RURAL RESIDENTIAL - \$169,900



Renovated 2+ bedroom home located on over 5 acres with total privacy. Above ground pool w/ wrap around decking. Recent renos - maple kitchen, ceramic tile, bathroom fixtures, main floor laundry, hardwood maple flooring, decking, airtight pellet stove and light fixtures. Full walkout basement with extra bedroom, storage and workshop.

Debbie Cumber\* 457-2414 ext 24

### OLD CAMERON RD. - \$30,000



1.41 ACRE back lot on private road off Highway 35 and Sandy Bay Road - nicely treed building lot - old dug well on property - walking distance to Gull Lake.

Susan Johnson \* 286-1234

### Vacant Property

**NORTH SHORE VACANT LOT - \$34,900**  
Large 6.28 acre building lot with 460 feet of frontage on municipally year round maintained North Shore Road - well treed for privacy and large enough to choose from several possible level building locations - public access to three lake Maple Lake chain just minutes away

**NORTH SHORE VACANT LOT - \$15,900**  
Vacant 2.91 acre building lot on beautiful North Shore Road. Well treed for privacy. Close proximity to public access to access the three lake, Maple Lake Chain. This lot is in a great location of fine homes within 15km to Haliburton. Build your dream home or cottage close to water without lakefront prices!!

Chris & Michelle Smolatz \* 457-2414

### GULL RIVER - \$219,900



Nice solid brick home on prestigious Gull River / Shadow lake. Superb convenient location, nice setting with view and ambiance of the waterfalls. Mature treed level lot, paved municipal access, 1 1/2 hour drive from GTA. Features updated eat-in kitchen, fireplace, sunroom, docking, main floor laundry plus loads more!

David Lee \* 286-1234  
www.haliburtonhighlands-realestate.ca

### HALLS LAKE - \$429,000



Beautiful 3+1 BR waterfront home/cottage on Halls Lake. Open concept living makes it great for entertaining. Huge master bedroom, main floor laundry, walk-out basement. Also has 2 BR bunkie for guests. One of the Vendors is a Registered Real Estate Salesperson.

Tom Gardner\* 286-1234

### HAPPY HOLIDAYS



Wishing you and  
your family  
MERRY  
CHRISTMAS  
and may the  
NEW YEAR bring  
good health and  
prosperity to all!

Al Mayo \* 286-1234

### KUSHOG LAKE - \$489,000



Well built 3 bdrm 2 bath home, w/ detached dble 24 x 24 gar., a heated 24 x 24 workshop, 24 x 16 carport and a 24 x 10 storage. 2400 sq ft of living space, floor to ceiling stone fireplace, large kitchen, immaculate throughout. Full basement with walk-out to lake. This home shows pride of ownership with many outstanding features.

Ed Gibbons \* 286-1234

### CRYSTAL LAKE - \$149,000



Renovate three bedroom cottage with deeded access to Crystal Lake. Features: drilled well, heated line, fully winterized, full basement, small barn for storage, dock space available. Great beach. Great for ATV or snowmobile. Large 2 acre lot.

Peter Franzen\* 286-1234

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# County Voice



## Letter of the Week

Dear Editor:

"Radon Gas ... has no smell, it has no taste, and ... you cannot see it either."

As time passes our awareness of the world around us increases, a greater understanding of its fragility, its complexity, and how we interact with in it. As well as, what we do to alter it, and how we then deal with the negative impacts that we may, or may not have induced.

At a time when energy conservation has become ever more important we all strive to do our part in reducing our carbon footprint. In our homes we continually upgrade with all the newest of technologies with the thought being, not only saving ourselves money but to also do our own little part to help improve the big picture. Spray foam insulations, Insulated concrete foundation, weather stripped doors, wrapping our homes with various air and vapour barriers and of course windows that will produce virtually no air leakage.

We have effectively created ourselves a completely closed environment (The building envelope).

Early on it was determined that in fact maybe we have created housing that was, "to tight" and with that thought came "Sick Houses" Indoor air quality became the newest of benchmarks that we needed to strive for.

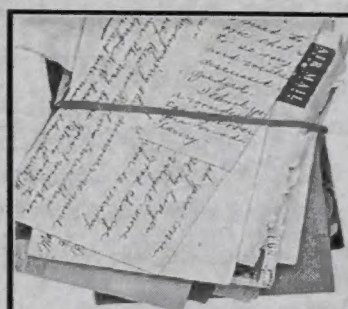
As we seem to create one problem we quickly introduce new equipment to address the issue. Mechanical Air Exchangers (Heat Recovery Ventilators) is equipment that we have had, and perfected over the last two decades. The down side of them is the installation costs. Operating costs are quite manageable and air quality improves tremendously.

Indoor air quality is affected by many different contaminants. The one that seems to get the most press is of course mould. Its ill effects seem to be felt very quickly, it produces odour, and is very unsightly. However the number of people that succumb to the effects of mould is minimal in comparison to the soil gas RADON.

This is not something that is new to us, we have been aware of RADON for centuries,

Letter cont'd... pg.3

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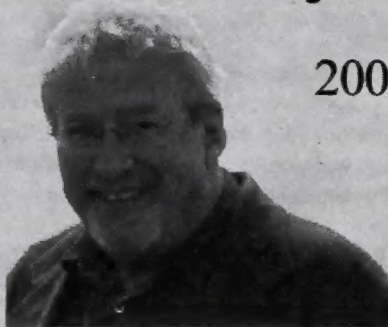


**Letters to the Editor are always welcome**

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Lower level of Stedman's Mail

## EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

by Stephen Patrick



2008 – What a Year it Was!

Watercolours, Community Activists Take Centre Stage

It's somehow fitting that as we look back in this issue of the Voice on the year just past, the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) begins its hearings into various aspects of the Watercolours condominium project proposed for the old Sir Sandford Fleming site overlooking Haliburton's Head Lake.

An ad hoc community group, Haliburton Condo Concern (HCC), has posed a challenge to the development on various levels (see Liz Danielsen's story on page one) although the group is adamant that they are not against the development itself, just the alleged violation of Dysart's Official Plan. The public opposition to the development has sparked a lot of criticism from many people who fear that if the HCC challenge is successful a development chill will be the immediate result. Indeed, many question why this group is protesting at all, when surely the community's interests will be adequately protected by existing by-laws, expert inquiries, and common sense.

Yet no one can deny that as citizens we have the right to question a development as important to the community as the Watercolours project. As I wrote in this space some six months ago, "... make no mistake: this development will forever change the existing landscape around Haliburton's Head Lake. A four storey building containing over 150 condominiums and housing up to 300 people will have a huge impact on the surrounding homes, highways, and the Village infrastructure ... and yes, we do need more support-oriented and maintenance-free housing for seniors, and yes, there's always an element in the community that sees all developments as good, and which instinctively suspects anyone or any group that has the temerity to ask awkward questions. It's always easy to say, what the hell, get on with it, it's needed ... and sometimes we still seem to be prisoners of a culture that cries out for development, at practically any cost, particularly when it comes to our towns and villages. Haliburton Village has a beautiful natural setting, but no one would suggest that its commercial development has ever added to it."

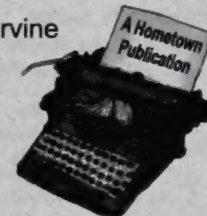
There is also a worry among some who've plunked down their deposits, as well as some Dysart Councillors, that any further demands on the developers will endanger not just this development, but others that may be in the early planning stages. And with the credit crunch in full flower, and the Canadian banking establishment apparently unwilling to loosen their purse strings any time soon, this OMB challenge does come at a particularly delicate time. There are millions at stake – for the builders, and the community. Let's hope that the OMB can lend some sense, and some wisdom, to the proceedings so that the whole of the Haliburton community emerges as the winner in these sometimes bitter proceedings.

## The Year in Review

In this issue we give a highly-selective reporter's eye view of the events of the first six months of 2008. Next week we'll turn our attention to the last six months of the very-busy year just past. We hope you'll enjoy this fast-paced journey – and join us for whatever's in store for this County in the next year. Our coverage begins on page seven. ■

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## Letter to the Editor cont'd... from pg.4

ever since its discovery in late 1800's. At that time what was not completely understood were the health implications that can be associated with it. RADON Gas is present all around us outside, but at very low levels, +/- 10 Bq3m. It has no smell, it has no taste, and of course being a gas you cannot see it either. It is to some extent in all homes, (+/- 45 Bq3m) due to its density it tends to be heavier than air so will concentrate in the lower levels of our homes. Outside, radon is virtually harmless due to the huge dilution factor of mixing with air. The health implications first became apparent in the mining industry. Miners became subjected to large amounts of exposure over a period of many years, day in and day out. Lung cancer was a common disease among them. This of course was in most cases contributed to tobacco use.

The key here is long term exposure and in concentrated levels. RADON Gas is a naturally created element, its origin is in uranium. In time, it breaks down to create radium and from there breaks down to create RADON Gas. RADON is an inert chemical (meaning it is a very sluggish chemical, it does not react to other chemicals) It is however somewhat soluble in water. In our homes RADON Gas continues to disintegrate and produces RADON PROGENY. These PROGENY are called polonium 218 and polonium 214 which are ALPHA particles. These are the guys that are causing the problems. In short we breathe these little guys in and they collide with our lung tissue which causes cell damage or cell death. The damaged cells have the potential to become cancerous. This process will account for 10% of the lung cancer

deaths in Canada, approximately 2000 people!

RADON is measured in units called "Becquerel" (Bq3m One Becquerel is the radiation caused by 1 disintegrations/second of radon) In June of 2007 Health Canada had set an action level for RADON to be more representative of the rest of the international community. In Canada concentration levels that exceed two hundred Becquerel's will now require mitigation.

Assessing RADON levels in our homes is a process that can be defined as short term monitoring or long term monitoring. Health Canada suggests that to perform effective short term monitoring a testing period should not be less than 7 days. Due to the vast amount of variables that can negatively affect the readings a 30 to 90 day test duration is likely to provide a more accurate reading. Long term readings are certainly preferred over short term. Long term monitoring 90 to 365 days is felt to provide a more accurate assessment of RADON levels in your home.

RADON infiltration is a process that in a lot of cases can be greatly reduced at low costs. Due to the fact that RADON is a soil gas, taking the steps to seal up a basement/crawlspace that has any exposed rock or soil is a great place to start. Remember it is a gas so the smallest of hair line cracks can provide an affective avenue for the gas to migrate into your home. Points where plumbing pipes pass through the floor much like, support columns, floor drains, and sump pumps are all areas where RADON enters the home. Porous structure, block, stone, concrete and wood foundations all have areas that will provide some infiltration. Houses

that are already equipped with HRV's (air exchange units) can be an effective way to mitigate low levels of all soil gasses including RADON. RADON Gas that is present in water will often come back with extremely high levels when measured in a water test. It is important to understand that to date Health Canada, EPA, and the World Health Organization have found no ill effects consuming water with RADON Gas in it. As the radon dissipates out of the water source it is reduced to a ratio of 10,000:1. To put that into perspective it would not be uncommon to have a water test show a concentration of 37,000 Becquerel in a water test. When that dissipates into the air it will result in a count of 37 Bq3m which we understand is well below the action level of 200 Bq3m.

This information has been provided by HOME PRO CENTRAL ON INC. We have been providing home and cottage inspections as well as WETT (wood energy technology transfer) and septic inspections in Haliburton County for 12 years. I am President of Home Pro, and am a certified Radon Inspector, through the American Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists.

Michael Rahme RHI  
National Certificate Holder 0078  
Home Pro Central On. Inc.  
homepromike@gmail.com

# Captain Beatty in Kandahar

For most of the past year we've been delighted to bring you dozens of columns entitled The Road to Kandahar: A Soldier's Journey, by the Royal Canadian Regiment's Captain David Beatty. Captain Beatty is the son of Bill and Ann Beatty of Drag Lake, Haliburton, and has served with the Canadian Airborne Regiment and the Canadian Parachute Centre.

Throughout the year Captain Beatty provided us with a unique view of the war in Afghanistan, starting with three months of preparation culminating in the flight to Kandahar, and finally some 20 weeks of insights into the theatre of war. We're truly grateful to Captain Beatty for his herculean efforts to get his column to us - sometimes he had to compose and transmit while only hours away from battle - in one of the most dangerous places on earth.

Many of our readers have wondered if Captain Beatty is going to resume his regular column any time soon. We'd love him to, of course, but military realities at this particular time stand in the way, and it could conceivably be many months before he's allowed to resume his column. We'll keep you fully informed as to when that day might be.

In the meantime we'd like to thank David for all his efforts on our behalf, and wish him God speed on his next 'Soldier's Journey' to Kandahar. ■



### COUNTY OF HALIBURTON RAIL TRAIL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Date: January 22, 2009  
Time: 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.  
Location: Haliburton County Office, Minden

The goal of the public meeting is to let the community of Haliburton County Rail Trail users and potential users have a voice in regards to the future of the Rail Trail. Attendees may request to present at the meeting. Presenters will be allotted 5 minutes to speak. Copies of the Rail Trail Master Plan are available at the Trails and Tours Office in Carnarvon, the Haliburton County Office in Minden and online at [www.haliburtoncounty.ca](http://www.haliburtoncounty.ca)

The Haliburton Highlands Trails and Tours Network on behalf of the Haliburton County Rail Trail Management Committee will be accepting letters from those unable to attend the meeting and presentation requests sent "Attn: 5 Year Review" until January 14, 2009. Letters can be sent via:

Email: [info@trailsandtours.com](mailto:info@trailsandtours.com)

Fax: 705-489-4051 (During Office Hours)

Mail: Haliburton Highlands Trails and Tours Network  
Attn: 5 Year Review  
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# Minden's New Year's Eve Bash ... from pg. 1

For adult audiences, Gord Kidd and the 50/50 Rockin' Country Band rocked the night away in the upper level of the community centre. Kidd and his band members also made the countdown to the stroke of 12.

"We were pleased with all aspects of the event," said Jack Brezina, Co-Chair of the Sesquicentennial Planning Committee. Brezina, along with several other committee members from the Minden area, first started planning for the New Year's party and other sesquicentennial events shortly before the summer of last year.

"Our job as the committee is to encourage other groups in the County who put on events to include a sesquicentennial spin on their project," said Brezina.

The committee is also looking after the planning of two future events which include a birthday party for the town on April 1st and a homecoming from August 5th - 15th.

Rick Cox, another member of the planning committee and Director of Community Services for the Township of Minden Hills, was pleased to see the support the community showed for Minden's first sesquicentennial event of its kind.

"We had a terrific turnout," said Cox. "We had about a half-a-dozen kids stay for the teen skate dance and after the fireworks finished about 75-100 people joined Gord Kidd upstairs for his show."

Jim McMahon, Reeve of Minden Hills, also made his way to the celebrations with his grandkids. He says he was impressed with the outcome of the party that was put together by the hard efforts of those on the planning committee.

"The committee is doing a wonderful job," said McMahon, who spent the evening going on wagon rides with his grandkids and

watching the fireworks display. "I thought there was a really great turnout considering how cold of a night it was."

Though McMahon thinks that frigid temperatures may have kept some people at home indoors, he noticed that those in attendance, especially kids, were having a good time.

"Everyone was in an upbeat mood, and when you see a smile on a kids face, it gives you a good feeling," he said.

McMahon would like to congratulate those on the planning committee for their commitment in running the successful event.

"This was a sneak peak of what's to come," he said. "The committee is working very hard and I'm pleased with what I've seen so far."

Brezina urges everyone in the County to join in on the future celebrations that will deliver fun for the whole family.

"We want to encourage people in the area and those who might not be here anymore to come back to Minden for events that will highlight the town," he explained. "This community has a long and bright history. I think there's value in getting together with old friends and making sure the history of the community stays alive."

For updates on future sesquicentennial events visit [www.minden150.ca](http://www.minden150.ca).



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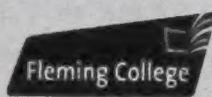
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... from pg. 1

Reeve Murray Fearrey has voiced concern about the cost of the project should the developers be put through too many unnecessary hoops. He has said, "It must be a viable project, or it just won't happen. This is a project worth over 20 million dollars and it's a lot of business to support the people in the community." Fearrey has also offered assurances that the Council is being extremely cautious given the number of conditions and holding provisions placed on the development.

The developer has held one open house to offer a display of architectural drawings and floor plans and answer questions or concerns raised by over 75 prospective buyers in attendance. Should the development not proceed as a result of the hearing or even due to the existing economic climate, public reaction may also be considerable.

As to the OMB hearings themselves, they aren't as formal as regular court proceedings but are more formal than a committee or council meeting. If a hearing is complex, it could involve lawyers, witnesses and any number of lengthy presentations. In addition to local residents and concerned citizens being in attendance, parties involved in the hearing can call expert witnesses, particularly in land use planning matters, to testify about an issue. All witnesses are placed under oath.

Hearings can be as brief as a couple of hours if it only involves a

few witnesses or is only dealing with one or two planning issues. In more complex situations, the hearing could last several days or even weeks. However, when the hearing is expected to last more than a week, the Board often holds a pre-hearing.

Only participants are allowed to actually take part in a hearing. In the case of a zoning by-law passed by a municipality and appealed to the OMB, the parties are normally limited to the municipality, the applicant (the developer) for the rezoning and the person or group who filed the appeal against the zoning by-law.

According to the OMB's website, there are different provisions that an individual must meet in order to be granted party status. In some instances, to be added as a party, one must have made oral submissions at a public meeting, or written submissions to the council prior to a zoning amendment being adopted. The Board may also add a party if it feels there are reasonable grounds to do so.

The OMB consists of a Chair, six Vice-Chairs and 20 members and come from a variety of professions including lawyers, planners, engineers, architects, accountants, farmers, environmentalists, teachers, business owners, and administrators. Board members are appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council for three year terms and travel extensively throughout the province to conduct hearings.

Like the court system, decisions issued by the OMB speak for themselves and the Board has determined that it is inappropriate for their administrative or communications staff to paraphrase or attempt to interpret decisions given the risk of distorting or confusing their original decision. Letting a written decision speak for itself prevents potential ambiguity and confusion. For this same reason, board members will not comment on hearings or decisions.

Parties involved in the hearing may ask for an award of costs at the end of the hearing. If costs are sought the request must be made either before the board renders its decision or within 30 days of a written decision being issued. The Board may also impose conditions on any of the parties involved as part of their decision which have to be satisfied within a set time following the hearing.

The OMB hearing starts on Thursday, January 8th at 11:00 a.m. in the Dysart Council Chambers and is open to the public. OMB rulings are normally released in writing anywhere from six to eight weeks after the hearing. Decisions are usually posted on the OMB website under their E-Decisions link two business days after they have been issued. ■

## Algonquin Highlands in Review

Liz Danielsen  
Staff Reporter

Algonquin Highlands' year started off with disappointment. Efforts to establish a partnership with Minden Hills for shared sewage facilities were unsuccessful given the extreme cost of new facilities and Minden's decision to continue with the status quo. Frustration ran high with both Councils given the Ministry of Environment's failure to establish clear guidelines for the municipalities to follow. The Algonquin Highlands Council was faced with having to rethink their options.

In March Council gave preliminary approval to a 4.81 percent increase in municipal taxes. While still unsure of the County levy, this increase would result in an estimated blended rate increase of 3.38 percent. Some of the budget highlights included construction of a new outdoor skating rink, capital bridge repairs, preparation and costing of an Airport Development Plan, completion of the Stanhope Firehall expansion project and renovations to the Municipal Office.

New landfill hours were established in efforts to have more consistent hours of operation at all sites and reduce confusion for visitors. It was also felt that the new hours would reduce 'bear watching' and increase public safety. Despite the hard work by staff to improve operations, this proved to be a less than popular decision later in the year.

Council also decided to move to holding only one meeting each month from May to September, unless workloads proved to be too difficult for staff.

During March Council also heard a delegation about the possibility of library closures, particularly in Dorset. The Algonquin Co-op presented Council with some of the results from an independent survey indicating that both libraries should remain open. Council considered strengthening the local library committee and establishing a stronger working relationship between the committee and the County Library Board.

April was a busy month for the Council. Things got started with Algonquin Highlands becoming the 17th municipality in Ontario to request a moratorium on uranium mining. Their decision came after the Municipality of Highlands East took a stand about uranium mining and exploration and requested the support of other municipalities in Haliburton County.

After reviewing all their options, Council reach a consensus to ask their consulting firm to take an in depth look at the possibility of developing a second sewage lagoon.

Council finalized the purchase of vehicles and equipment during April. They also accepted their consultant's recommendation to proceed with the reconstruction of the Airport Road Bridge and St.

Peter's Road Bridge and agreed to proceed with the engineering work required to complete the Buckslide Bridge in anticipation of work proceeding later in the year if funding was available.

April was also a trend setting month for the municipality. The Algonquin Highlands Fire Department is developing a Master Fire Plan for their community, and it will be a first in the County. Council adopted a terms of reference for the plan and agreed to ensure there would be sufficient resources to complete the planning process.

Council also considered making several very tough decisions regarding closure of several facilities and asked staff to complete a detailed review of the condition, costs to operate and use of both Club 35 and the Oxtongue Lake Community Centre.

Halfway through the year with some tough decisions under their belts, Council received some positive news. They were advised by Ontario's Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs that they were to take part in a community exchange called First Impressions. At the time, the name of the community was a tightly held secret, but they looked forward to the exchange as an excellent learning experience. ■

## THE YEAR IN REVIEW



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# Highlands East in Review

The Highlands East Council's first year was one fraught with difficulties, but things started to pull together in 2008. Council decided to undergo an organizational review which Reeve Dave Burton said was helping them to move forward.

During the County's Library review, Council committed to keeping all four of their libraries open if at all possible.

Much of January and February was spent in deliberations over the budget. Council finally settled on a 4.22 percent increase for the year which included the cost of 2 new pumpers and 2 tankers for the Fire Department at an estimated cost of \$750,000.

Council successfully ratified a settlement on their staff union contract early in the year.

Things got a bit rough in February as Council terminated their Chief Building Official. They were able to negotiate an agreement with Dysart to utilize their CBO on an as required basis for a two month period while they filled the position.

In keeping with their commitment to retain (and improve) their libraries, Council agreed in February to move the Monmouth library into their medical building and make the necessary alterations at an estimated cost of \$25,000. Costs were expected to be recovered through the sale of the old building. A public meeting was held at the end of February to seek input from residents, but there was little opposition to the plan.

While no formal decisions were made, Council also took a hard look at the rest of their facilities and how they could ensure the best use of them.

The first hiccup in smooth sailing came in February when Bancroft Uranium held a public meeting, outlining their plans to explore and mine uranium in the Monmouth area. Record attendance at the meeting and the public's response gave an early indication that things were about to get ugly if the company's plans proceeded.

In March Council heard a request from a small eager group of artisans (called the Highlands East Cultural Association) who outlined a plan to revitalize Tory Hill. They supported the group's request to use the Tory Hill parkette for a series of Sunday markets throughout the summer.

Council also supported a request to start up a recycling/sorting station. The plan was approved in principal and Council asked

staff to assist the couple and set up a meeting with the County's Waste Management Committee.

Council also held a special meeting in March to look at the structure of their Fire Department and the strategic placement of trucks and equipment. One of their goals was to reduce territorial attitudes that remained in place since amalgamation. An agreement was reached that ongoing consultation would take place with Station Commanders and volunteers in support of the fire fighters and to ensure maximum protection continued.

During March, Council recognized Mabel Winder of Gooderham who celebrated her 98th birthday. In April, Council recognized Ted Deterling of Wilberforce who also celebrated his 98th birthday.

Concerns were raised by members of the public about the condition of a number of area roads and the municipality's 'organizational protocol.' Council was quick to respond to these concerns.

Council was also put on notice by FUME (Fight Uranium Mining and Exploration) of troubles on the horizon due to the possible impacts of uranium exploration and mining in the area by Bancroft Uranium. Concerns were raised about property values given the stigma imposed by mining activities and Council was urged to join in with other Ontario municipalities opposing uranium mining.

During subsequent meetings Council considered public opinion and the impact that uranium mining could have on the community and agreed to take a stand. They wrote to the Province supporting the other municipalities and requesting a moratorium on uranium mining and exploration.

Councillor Suzanne Partridge was appointed to Chair the Crowe Valley Conservation Authority.

In April Council agreed to partner with the Cardiff Elementary School and other interest groups/organizations to conduct a feasibility study for a Multi-Use Arts and Recreation Facility for Cardiff. One of the hopes of the group was to boost enrolment at the school.

After several incidents were reported, concern was raised about

## THE YEAR IN REVIEW



Liz Danielsen  
Staff Reporter

the 911 system, how dispatching was managed out of Lindsay and the response time for an ambulance to reach some areas of Highlands East. Council asked the Fire Chief to work with the County's EMS Director to reach a solution.

Concern was also raised about this time about homes being built on McCue Lake without benefit of a permit. In fact, the perpetrators were beavers and water levels were reaching levels sufficient to cause considerable concern to residents.

In May, Council heard concerns about flooding and mould at the Wilberforce Elementary School. Problems were attributed to extraordinary spring water levels but a quick response by the Board resolved matters.

Council supported the establishment of a new Women's Group and authorized use of the Lloyd Watson Memorial Centre free of charge for their activities.

Council heard several delegations about noise disturbances from delivery trucks, forklifts and refrigeration units operating outside of authorized hours at the Wilberforce Foodland. Requests for Council to develop a buffer between residences and the store were denied, but Council directed their By-Law Officer to follow up in efforts to reduce problems and asked the party concerned to attempt to resolve things with the store owner.

During May discussions reignited about the renaming of South Wilberforce Road to Saunders Road. This was the start of renewed attempts to convince the County to allow the road name to be changed back to S. Wilberforce Road and is an issue that remains unresolved.

The long term achievements of Elva Bates of Gooderham were celebrated during this month and a tree was planted in her honour.

By the mid year point, the matter of feral cats in the community had become a very real issue. Many complaints were heard about cats, particularly a feral colony on Clement Lake Road and despite attempts to resolve the problem, it remains an issue to date.

## Highlands Summer Festival 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 2000 - 2009

### Audition Call

Audition packages available from Kitchens Etc. in Haliburton and The Storeroom in Minden

The Highlands Summer Festival is searching for actors for a variety of roles for the 2009 season. In particular, the company is looking for a young girl, who looks 10 to 12 years of age, who can sing and dance for the lead role in the musical Annie. As well, young girls of a various ages will be needed in the roles of orphans in this production. Auditions for these roles will be held on Saturday January 17 with call-backs on Sunday, January 18. Complete details on the audition process can be found at [www.highlandssummerfestival.on.ca](http://www.highlandssummerfestival.on.ca).

The Highlands Summer Festival also requires actors for the remaining cast of the musical Annie and the plays Butterflies are Free and Play On! These auditions will take place on Saturday, January 24 with call-backs on Sunday, January 25. The following is a list of the roles being filled by this audition call:

**Oliver (Daddy) Warbucks:** A billionaire who opens his home and heart to Annie  
**Miss Hannigan:** The cantankerous and hilarious orphanage matron  
**Grace Farrell:** Oliver Warbucks' faithful Secretary  
**Rooster:** Miss Hannigan's scheming brother  
**Lily St. Regis:** Rooster's not-so-dumb, blonde accomplice  
**President Franklin D. Roosevelt:** President who aids Warbucks in his search  
**Bert Healey:** Radio announcer who broadcasts Annie's search for her parents.  
**The Boylyn Sisters:** Singers on Bert Healey's radio show  
**And many other Cameo roles,** various ages, both genders  
Those attending the audition for roles in Annie should come prepared to sing one verse or 16 bars of a song from musical theatre production other than Annie. Call-backs for adult roles on January 25.



Butterflies are Free and Play On!

Auditions for these productions will be held on Saturday, January 24, with call-backs on Sunday, January 25. These two comedies require fourteen players aged early twenties through to sixties in both genders. The characters include:

*Butterflies are Free*

**Don:** Young man early 20's  
**Mrs. Baker:** Don's protective mother

**Jill:** Free-spirited hippie, late teens  
**Ralph Austin:** A director friend of Jill's

### PLAY ON!

(Some of the roles can be played by either a man or a woman)

**Aggie Manville:** A stage manager and prompter  
**Henry Benish:** An aging character actor, 60  
**Marla "Smitty" Smith:** A young actor just starting out in her career, 17  
**Billy Carewe:** an athletic young man of spirit, 25  
**Phyllis Montague:** A novice playwright in the community

**Geraldine:** "Gerry" Dunbar: A community theatre director  
**Polly Benish:** An aging character actress, 60  
**Saul Watson:** actor, a villain, 45  
**Violet Imbry:** The not too bright Ingenue, 22  
**Louise Perry:** a sound and lighting technician, 35

"It is the Highlands Summer Festival's tenth season," executive producer Betty Mills noted. "We are looking forward to giving as many people as possible the opportunity to be on stage this year, so I encourage everyone who has an interest in live theatre to consider auditioning for a role."

The Festival is also looking for individuals to assist in other areas. In pre-production work there is a need for carpenters, painters, seamstresses and others to help before the shows hit the stage. In backstage work including stage managers, assistant stage manager, stage hands, technicians, etc. To book an audition time and more information, contact Betty Mills at 457-1354. Call the same number if you are interested in assisting with off-stage duties. Or check out our website: [www.highlandssummerfestival.on.ca](http://www.highlandssummerfestival.on.ca)

do something  
Dramatic  
this summer

## Dysart in Review

## THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Liz Danielsen  
Staff Reporter

During meetings in January and February, considerable emphasis was placed on budget deliberations for Dysart et al. Budget highlights included partial funding for a new library, upgrades to Mountain Street and Unicorn Road, a new tanker truck for the Fire Department, the replacement of the Burnt River Bridge and engineering on the Pine Lake Bridge in anticipation of government funding.

One of Council's early concerns was covering a shortfall in their sewage budget from 2007, which created an average increase of \$30 per household and a 7 1/2 percent increase on metered rates. Council, also facing substantial increases to meet environmental requirements, agreed to take every measure possible to ensure that the blended budget increase did not exceed 8 percent.

Council approved a submission for infrastructure funding to assist with development of the new library and resolved to allow the process to get underway to rezone lands within Head Lake Park to accommodate the library.

Early in March Council agreed to an unprecedented arrangement to allow their Chief Building Official to be available to Highlands East on an as required basis. The agreement was limited to a two month period to ensure no interruption of their own building season.

Council was one of the first municipalities to offer their support to Highlands East in their request to the Provincial Government for a moratorium on uranium mining and exploration. Early in April the Council also threw their support behind the Shifting Gears Festival being promoted by the Cycling Coalition and offered a one-time donation of \$500 to help the coalition with a shortfall in their budget for the event.

In April Council considered the success of the Highland Cup and whether their \$2,000 loan would be repaid. It was agreed by all that, with the exception of the mess left on the ice, the event had been a great success and a benefit to local business. A review of the financial statements showing a net

Dysart cont'd... pg.9

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Thai Yoga Massage



... from pg. 8

loss of almost \$19,000 changed the loan status to a donation.

Sign pollution continued to plague Councils in Haliburton and Dysart was no exception as staff reported that a number of signs had been installed without benefit of a permit. Council, having recently adopted a new sign by-law (considered to be a bit of a work in progress) asked staff to continue to be proactive and work with locals, making them aware of the requirements of the by-law. They also established a small Sign Committee to review ongoing requests for signage.

During April Council also gave preliminary approval to the Haliburton Forest & Wildlife Reserve to build a sawmill and energy generating facility in Guilford. Council was very supportive of this 'green' development, and depending on the results of wind energy technology testing, a wind turbine may also be built on site in the future.

Early in May two members of Council took the initiative to prepare new inserts to be included in the tax notices. Time was of the essence, but in efforts to get more detail about the budget and Council's activities out to the public in an attractive and colourful design, Councillors Parker and Roberts agreed to work on the inserts themselves.

The Rails End Gallery's Executive Director presented a plan

for Council's approval for phased exterior improvements to the building which included wheelchair access and landscaping. The Gallery wanted to send the message that "this is where art lives in Haliburton" and Council approved the proposal.

During May a bit of a case of the landfill blues set in. Responding to concerns from cottagers on Kennisis Lake, Council agreed to earlier landfill hours on Sundays and holidays. Council also discussed whether or not the "one size fits all" style of management worked for all sites and agreed to allow landfill attendants a bit of discretion when it came to tipping fees for brush.

Council also considered a request from the Kawagama Lake Cottagers Association to establish tighter shoreline controls related to shoreline development and vegetation removal through the development permit process. Council discussed the problems with enforcing this type of by-law, but agreed to give the matter further consideration.

In the interests of establishing a level playing field, Council requested site plan controls for Carey's Garden Centre. Concerns had been raised about the increasing number of large portable greenhouses at the site, without benefit of any permits. While the owner pled ignorance of the municipality's requirements and was concerned about associated costs, Council remained firm in their decision.

In June a nasty disagreement took place in Council chambers

about the validity of a claim of a long standing gravel pit and its impact on neighbouring properties in Guilford. The Griffin family, who applied to use the quarry as a grandfathered operation squared off against the Adams and Price families who were supported by long standing residents in the area. Allegations of unfair treatment, mismanagement and wrong doing were made on both sides of the argument. Comments were also made about perceived inadequacies of the Ministry responsible for approvals of aggregate resources. Both parties were requesting the support of Council. Council however determined that, given conflicting documentation, it would be a matter for the courts to resolve. The case is now pending in the Superior Courts.

Highlanders were shocked and outraged at the careless torching of the Haliburton Caboose, but a cooperative effort between the Rotary Club and Council, assisted by full insurance coverage for its restoration helped to alleviate public concern about the fate of the little caboose.

And finally, midway through the year, after an extremely well attended public meeting and considerable public support, Council gave their approval to amend their zoning by-law to allow the development of a 150 unit, five story seniors' condominium at the old Fleming College site. Who would have guessed that it would become a matter of considerable controversy for months to come? ■

## No Knocking Hodgson's No-Nonsense Commitment

The Haliburton Cottager Proves that Hard Work Will Out

Terrance Gavan

Sports Editor

Cody Hodgson said it all in a Gold Medal Moment post-game wrapper for broadcast news and CBC radio.

"Our goal was to keep getting better every day, and keep improving," said Hodgson, outlining the strategy as mapped by Canadian head coach Pat Quinn, and his erstwhile and elite coaching staff, who ran a wound-tight-as-Titleist team-first initiative leading up to the final gold medal game of the World Junior Championships.

The strategy worked its wiggly way to a nonpareil performance last Monday as the Canadian squad defeated Sweden 5-1 to win its fifth straight junior world gold medal.

Hodgson popped a pair of goals and added an assist in the gold medal tilt, and his five goals, 11 assists and 16 points overall made him the tourneys top scorer, one point ahead of Tourney MVP John Tavares who had eight goals and seven assists in the tourney. Jordan Eberle, Hodgson's swift sniping line-mate placed third overall in tournament scoring with six goals and seven assists.

Hodgson said there were some hiccup moments, but added that in the end, Canada had faith in the system implemented by the Team Canada think tank.

"We had some sloppy games," smiled Hodgson, "but we saved our best for last."

Indeed, and there will be inevitable discussions about who was the real MVP of the tourney, the draft-eligible Tavares, or Hodgson, the already drafted Vancouver Canuck signatory. Anyone who watched all of the Canada games and anyone with an appreciation of the finer points and balanced nuance of the game of hockey would probably lean hard to Hodgson who led the tourney in assists. Hodgson was instrumental on the power play and was also the yeoman workhorse on the penalty kill.

Take a look at the collective minutes and the fact that Hodgson finished the tournament with an eye-popping plus eight, and there is an undeniable and intuitive notion that it was Hodgson, and not Tavares, who ultimately melded all facets of the game to seal this fifth straight gold for Team Canada.

In the end, Tavares deserves all of the accolades. He is a scoring machine and we love our home run hitters. Tavares, Hodgson and Canadian defenceman PK Subban were all named to the tournament all-star squad.

Subban, a crowd favorite and a lovely guy with a penchant for the peripatetic, summed up Hodgson's contribution in a post-game scrum.

"Hodgson was definitely an unsung hero. He played extremely well every game; he did everything. He logged a lot of minutes, he defended well, he played against the other teams' top lines and

he shut them down," Subban said.

That said, it was Hodgson's stellar and selfless play on the power play and especially on the penalty kill that contributed to Canada's win on Monday night.

The Canadian team took a string of penalties in the second period and Hodgson was there at every turn, running that lovely swinging door rotation with clockwork precision. Whether he was switching with Eberle or Subban on the penalty kill, Hodgson remained unperturbed, and importantly, stood tall and large and on both feet, challenging, always challenging the Swedish point play.

The coaches knew that the strength of the Swedish power play starts from the top, and they left it to Hodgson to put a plug in the jug. He responded with the aplomb of a seasoned veteran.

At one point in that second frame, with Canada killing penalties in a 5 on 3 situation Hodgson ran the Swedes off the puck on two separate occasions, challenging and forcing the sloppy pass, then jumping on the puck and muscling it past the blue line by sheer force of will.

Last summer I talked to Hodgson about the things that he felt needed improvement. He said he needed to work on his skating and strength. And in the course of that summer regimen working out at Dave Gagner's Power Play Training Center in London or

at his cottage working with Battalion teammate and Haliburton native Matthew Duchene, he worked on his skating, strength, and conditioning.

And in this tourney on this huge stage, the skating, the strength and the determination were in fulsome display and never in doubt as Hodgson worked selflessly where needed, filling niche spots and adding a steady hand and hockey savvy well beyond his years.

And it wasn't all power play or penalty kill. On five-on-five situations Hodgson showed us some pretty impressive stuff.

On three separate occasions in the game, Hodgson started the rush from in front of the game's first star, goaltender Dustin Tokarski, ripped a tapered head-man to a breaking winger and then appeared like a ghost alongside the streaking Eberle or Zach Boychuk in time for a slashing try in the slot. Quick, explosive, and single-minded, Hodgson played two-ways on all days.

And if you watched closely, as the Swedes drew to within 2 goals in the third, Team Canada short-shifted on critical rotations, and always, there was Hodgson in the middle, or Hodgson taking mental notes from coaches in hurried between shift stoppages.

If you looked hard enough you saw the polite but stern nod to the coach as he digested the feedback before skating back to take a critical faceoff. A coach on the ice, Hodgson received accolades from both TSN analysts Bob McKenzie and Pierre McGuire.

Hodgson cont'd ...pg.11

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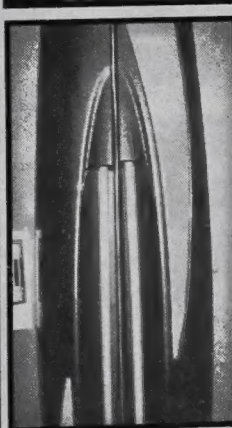
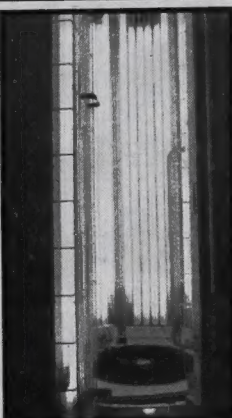
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Rick Mercer announces the first edition of The Voice

# THE YEAR IN REVIEW

All photos by Lyn Winans except where noted



Haliburton County went to the dogs once again in late January



Minden firefighters in action in February



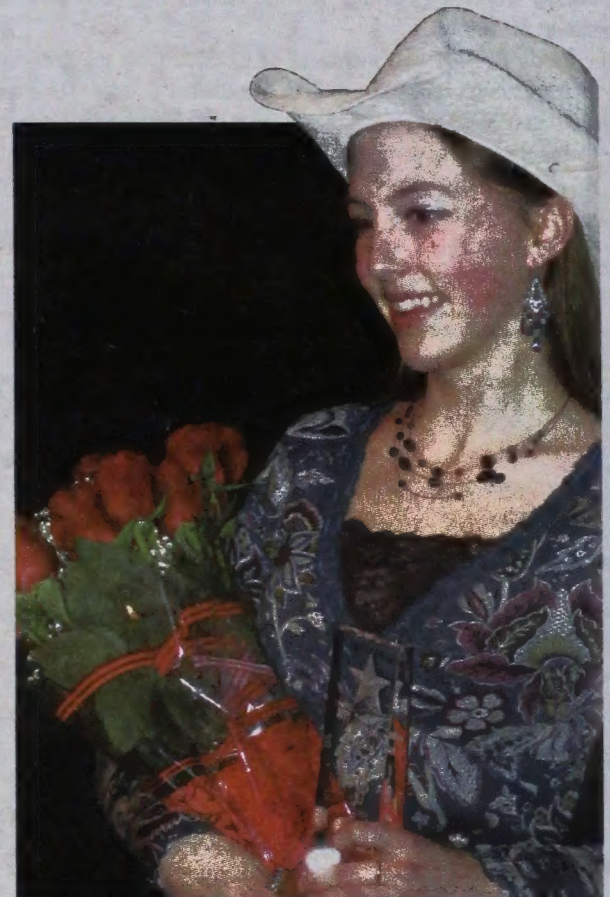
Sir Sam's Spring Splash ended a great ski season



The Highland Cup roared into Haliburton on Head Lake



The Dorset Snowball soars into the sky



Kelsey Crowe was Haliburton's favourite Idol  
Photo by Terrance Gavan

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# THE YEAR IN REVIEW

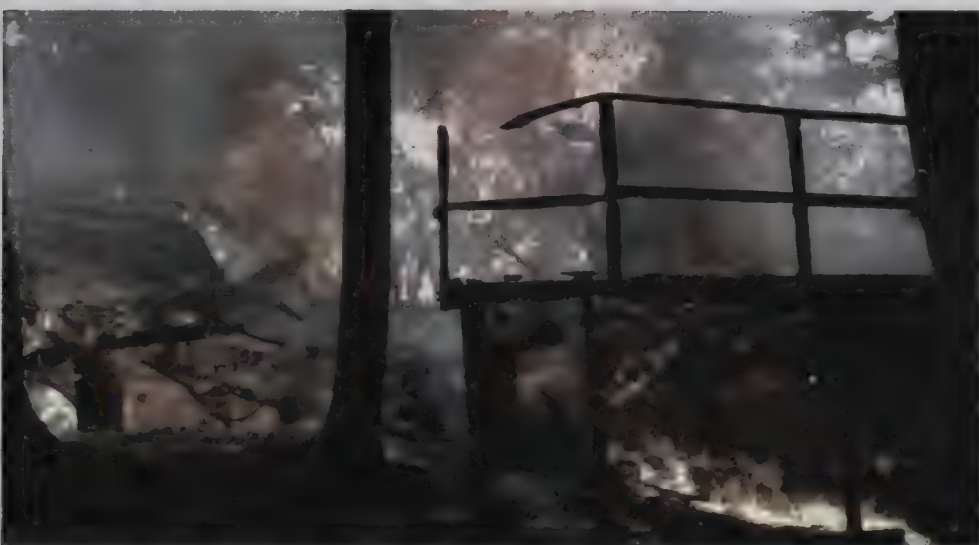


Pat Quinn welcomes the County Voice reporters at the Toronto Airport after winning the World Under 18 Championship. Photo by Joel Potter



Arsonists trash Haliburton's favourite Caboose  
Photo by Joanne Irvine

A warm winter welcome to Dorset



Cottage burned to the ground near Minden.  
Photo by Brett Irvine



Rick Rutig loses his hair for charity.  
(Submitted photo)



Haliburton's Carley Shaw and Brooke Saunders give it their all at the annual Lindsay Track Meet.

... from pg.9

Both suggested that Hodgson was the diamond among all these jewels in the rough.

Nowhere was that determination and will better exemplified than on that third period power play goal that gave Canada that all-important cushion. Hodgson calmly tapping the stick and catching the eye of the just-turned-18 baby-faced-assassin Ryan Ellis, the young gunner and powerplay mechanic who waited just the right amount of time, dragging the eye of Swedish goaltender - aka diving diva - Jakob Markstrom to his left side. Ellis reversed the puck to Hodgson's patiently tapping blade and Hodgson delivered the laser to Markstrom's right. He added an empty netter at the end, again muscling out of a scrum, winning yet another battle for the puck.

Cody Hodgson in an interview after the game with the Globe and Mail refused to embellish his own efforts and instead deflected his own success to his mates.

"I was playing with some unbelievable hockey players, Jordan Eberle and Zach Boychuk and Johnny [Tavares] on the power play, obviously, I think every time I threw to them it was in the net," Hodgson said.

And after the game in an interview with TSN's James Cybulski Hodgson was effusive about the game and the implications.

"It's surreal, being here, growing up and watching these games ... my parents in the crowd," said Hodgson, attempting to put the whole gold medal experience into perspective.

In the end, he managed to melt it all down, allowing that this, amongst all of the gold medals and the accolades and the moments in his career, ranked at the pinnacle.

"This has gotta' be ... number one ... it's still surreal."

Cody Hodgson will take some time to rest before heading back to work with the Brampton Battalion and a possible run at the Memorial Cup.



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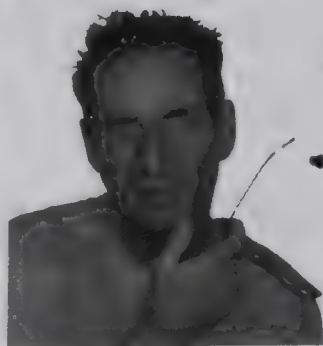
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Terrance Gavan  
Sports Editor

## The Passing of a Hockey Player should sound the Death Knell for Fighting

Instead?

### We Devolve to Red Herring Helmet Discussion

I don't buy it.

I don't buy this crap about fighting in hockey as a safety valve. Or a method to ensure the safety of marquee players. Or the fact that no one really gets hurt in a hockey fight.

And I'm also not buying the sturm and drang and tight-fisted embellishments delivered by blathering idiots who support fighting as a valiant and longstanding tradition of the NHL.

You know the idiots I'm talking about. They include a long and hardy laundry list of goon technicians who will stutter and sway and prattle long and windy into their hats about the drop of the gloves and the crunch of the fist. They include the effervescent clown prince Don Cherry, execs like Brian Burke, Bobby Clarke, and the burping hoards of bobble headed fans who simply love to watch two guys go at it bare-knuckled, bleeding and broken, because, well that's the way it is in Hockey Land.

Well, there was a funeral today in Port Perry, Ontario. A young man was placed in the ground, a full six feet underneath the hard frozen tundra. Tears were shed for this young man. A young man with a life full of expectations, hopes and dreams. All of that hope and promise snuffed by a hard scrape of unleathered hand and a subsequent snapping fall to the hard arena ice.

Don Sanderson was 21 when he dropped the gloves in a senior hockey game while playing for the Whitby Dunlops just a month ago.

His helmet came off during the altercation and he was pushed backward, his head hitting the ice with a horrendous thud. This collision with the ice prompted a series of events inside his brain. It provoked coma and last Friday it led inevitably to his death.

Please note an important ingredient in this story. His death and the act of violence that engendered it were separated by a full three weeks.

In the news biz we call this the "diminishing window." You see, sadly, by the time young Mr. Sanderson succumbed to his injury we, the collective whole, had all but forgotten the circumstances involved. Oh we were told countless times that he had actually died from his altercation with another player and the ice.

But the two events were so far removed. And we are blessed with such short memory when it comes to the news. Sanderson had been on life support since Dec 12, 2008. He died on Jan 2, 2009. Three weeks, and a change in years.

The window of diminished responsibility has worked its magic. The spin doctors in the hockey community have chucked a red herring onto the arena ice.

Lamentably, this discussion has suddenly been detoured and hijacked by the pro-fighting cognoscente. I hear the word ac-

cident now. I hear the word unfortunate accident even more. I hear the words, "freak accident," rising with the tide. And I hear the words "if only his helmet had stayed on."

Yeah? Bull.

This was no accident. Don Sanderson died as the direct result of a hockey fight and he died for all intents and purposes on that same day. He passed away on Jan 2, 2009, but Don Sanderson's brain was delivered from this mortal coil on Dec 12, 2008.

Please can we do young Mr. Sanderson a huge favor here. Can we please get tough on those pretenders and frauds who would diminish the argument with heinous and egregious lies. The people who are calling this an accident and those that would like to prompt an inappropriate and insulting diversion to an excursive argument regarding the proper wearing of protective headgear.

Yes, Mr. Sanderson's death has now engendered an argument about helmets. News reports are suggesting that Sanderson's helmet came off during the altercation exposing the back of his head to the trauma.

This is the gist of the argument. We are slowly being deflected by this red herring. The harsh reality of a discussion about the legitimacy of fighting in hockey is being clouded by butcher block censors who mandate that no viable discussion about the ethics of bare-knuckled combat should occur in the harsh light of this tragedy.

If the 21-year-old Don Sanderson had been pronounced dead at the arena, and if a coroner's hearse had pulled up to the back door instead of an ambulance, we may have a different discussion on our hands.

But alas, he was young and strong. He clung to life with the hardwired desperation of the fit gladiator. Make no mistake. Don Sanderson was fit and struggled hard to cheat the reaper. That does not change the outcome.

A young man died on the ice. A young man died as the direct result of a hockey fight. The bump n' grind Cherry-ists have

now taken to calling this an "unfortunate altercation."

Some of these lovely non-peaceniks and obstructionists have gone so far to say that this could all have been avoided if only Mr. Sanderson had kept the chin strap of his helmet done up tight.

That's just wrong. Like fighting in hockey. Just wrong.

The NHL has retained its finely honed and detailed every man on deck stance in the wake of this fight-related death.

The NHL has indicated it has no plans to alter its rules in the wake of Sanderson's death.

"It's an issue that from time to time is a point of discussion, so this may prompt further discussion. But I don't sense a strong sentiment to change the rules we currently have relating to fighting," said NHL deputy commissioner Bill Daly in an email on Friday.

Canadian Press reports that OHA president Brent Ladds said the issues arising from the death of Sanderson, who received four fighting majors in the 11 games he played with Whitby this season, will be raised at his organization's next monthly board meeting.

Four fights in 11 games in a league that remains just some passive steps and some grey hairs removed from the beer league should have prompted warning bells. But fighting is part of the game. In his four previous fights Sanderson probably heard the approving shouts of the crowd and the slapping sticks of his teammates as he wandered off the ice. Flaying fists are accepted in no other team sport on the planet.

In hockey, here in Canada we reward our fighters with praise, high-fives and post-game beers.

Part of the party, even on the dais of a senior men's league.

So Don Sanderson continued to fight until that fateful night on Dec 12, 2008.

When the cheering stopped.

Forever.■

## It Begins with a Step and a Mush

The journey of a thousand miles begins with a first step. Our sports journey here at the County Voice began with the skittering feet of several high-spirited hounds pulling a sled piloted by a Jamaican musher named Damion Robb. Robb, who spends most of his year pulling tourists around Jamaica on a wheeled version of the Canadian dogsled, made national headlines last year by joining the grueling North American dogsled tour.

Not many Jamaicans make plans to come the Canadian tundra for a winter vacation, but Damion Robb and Chukkah Caribbean Tours owner Danny Melville, who sponsored Robb's dogsled odyssey, arrived in Haliburton last January with large smiles and

## THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Terrance Gavan

Sports Editor

all of the warm bonhomie that we come to expect of Jamaican vacation providers.

The bonus? The arrival of Melville and Robb sparked some interest from the CBC's Rick Mercer Report producers and that engendered a very fortunate collision with destiny. To wit: Rick Mercer made the two-an-a-half hour drive to the Delta Pinestone Resort – home of the Haliburton's 2008 Dogsled Derby – and landed on the front page of the very first edition of the County Voice.

Of course the Derby and Haliburton also made it onto the national stage a little later when the Mercer dogsled bit ran for 2.1 minutes or so on Mercer's popular report.

And what have we learned from this pitter-pattered pad down

Sports Year in Review cont'd... pg.13 ...

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... from pg. 12

memory lane?

Simple. Sports remains the thumping heartbeat of any small town newspaper. Forgive me this brief trespass and sundry self-indulgence dear readers. But sports editors are prone to hyperbole, purple prose and an overblown opinion regarding their spot on this temporal plain and I remain a proud piece of that parade of paradigms.

I've been writing sports for a long, long time. Professionally, it began for me back in the 80s at the University of Manitoba. But even before that I always regarded sports as metaphor for life. Grantland Rice, Frank Deford, Mitch Albom, Scott Young, and the lovely Trent Frayne were my heroes in an earlier life. Sports-writers with a special joie de vivre and an altruistic view of their profession. There are lessons to be learned on the field, the hardwood and on the ice. Life lessons.

In the next two issues we'll try to present a small slice of life from the year 2008, the inaugural year of this "little paper that could."

Not many gave it a chance in Hades. When Brett and Joanne Irvine announced that they would be starting an alternative weekly in the Highlands, it left some long time members of the community a little slack-jawed. But Brett and Joanne told me they had a vision.

I will never become an entrepreneur. If I have money burning a hole in my bank account I immediately begin perusing LCD TV flyers and musing about how nice it would be to watch my beloved Celtics cruise to another NBA title on a beautiful 52-inch LCD high-def platform. That's why I'm a sportswriter and not the CEO of Microsoft. I am not fond of the long dance on the creaking limb.

But Brett and Joanne convinced me.

I was asked to come on as sports editor initially because I had a great deal of experience in the weekly newspaper business. I learned most of what I know today about community newspapers from a guy named Merv Farmer who owned four papers in the Manitoba Interlake before selling out to Sun Media in the mid-nineties.

He told me to cover baseball, high school sports, hockey and all of the events that I could find in the sprawling Manitoba Interlake, and he told me to write from the heart. He gave me free rein and he encouraged me to write with humor and to cover events from different angles. I warned him that I was prone to breaking some literary rules.

He told me with a wink. "I've broken a few rules myself ... why

do you think we hired you?"

I had a few offers from some Manitoba dailies while working for Swervin' Mervin, but turned them down. I liked the idea of working in a small town, being a sports editor, having access to a wealth of stories; small town stories; arts, sports, humor and the drama of the moment. I liked the idea of working for Swervin' Mervin Farmer most of all. He encouraged me to write with abandon and to write with joy.

And so it's nice to be ensconced in another small town, with stories that meander at their own lithe, lilting pace. Nice to be back wandering the sidelines at a high school football game. Nice to be back in the arena. Nice to be able to share vicariously in the thrill of a last second goalmouth scramble.

I learned very quickly that Haliburton is a veritable hockey hotbed. I also learned that hockey never hibernates here in the Highlands. We have Cody Hodgson and Matthew Duchene to thank for that. The two Haliburton Highlands' hockey phenoms, who will soon both be playing in the NHL, have taught us all that hockey, thanks in no small part to the diligence of Hockey Canada's program of excellence, is now a year-round sport.

In fact I wrote a column about just that last summer comparing old training regimens with Cody Hodgson's own summer skating and fitness program. It's changed the focus of sports writing. For instance I can't recall ever writing a hockey feature in mid-July back at Interlake Publishing.

In our second issue we were introduced to an initiative to bring the 2010 Ontario Summer Games to Haliburton. The Highland Storm teams were just heading into their February playdowns and I got to cover my first Red Hawk hockey game. High school hockey is a tremendous vehicle, because it gives kids that aren't entrenched in the all-or-nothing Hockey Canada treadmill to excellence a chance to compete on a very competitive level. In that first game the Hawks cruised to a 6-3 win over Lakefield District High School.

I managed to follow the Hawk's fortunes right through the playoffs last year and I still remember that first game and how energized and euphoric the players were. The players on both teams were coming off a week of exams and they played with that flittered and flung exuberance of a kid who has just removed the training wheels from his brand new Supercycle.

In February I did a feature on Scotty Morrison, former NHL Vice President, Chief of Officiating and founding father of the Hockey Hall of Fame. Scotty is a living legend and has retired here to the Highlands. He remains utterly entrenched in this community and this year Scotty has agreed to sponsor the First Annual Scotty Morrison Hockey Tournament.

He'll be bringing the Stanley Cup to Haliburton as part of the festivities and it's fitting that all of the proceeds will be going to Community Living Haliburton County.

Another local arena legend was recognized for her dedication to excellence in figure skating last February. Toni Carr lived in Ingoldsby and worked at the Haliburton Family Medical Center. Carr passed away on Sept 29, 2007. Last February, the Skate Canada eastern Ontario executive passed a resolution to name the annual Kawartha Highlands Interclub event the Toni Carr Memorial Interclub Competition. Lesley Lumley, the current chair of the Interclub event summed up Carr's huge contribution to figure skating in the Highlands. "For our skaters, Toni's positive attitude, her encouraging words and her supportive hugs were both a source of comfort and strength." And again, it's nice when communities give back to the people that make a difference.

In March the snowmobiles came. They came in trailers, and they came with a vengeance. An estimated 1500 people came to Haliburton for the First Annual Highland Cup snowmobile competition. I managed to talk once again to an old friend Jacques Villeneuve, who I first met while working for Interlake Publishing. Villeneuve competed in the Highland Cup event while still nursing some horrendous injuries suffered in an event just six weeks prior to the Highland Cup. He was airlifted off a race course in January and was back racing in March.

He remains the grand old man of Canadian snowmobile racing. I always love chatting with Jacques because he calls it just like he sees it. A man devoid of pretense and preen; a guy blessed with prosaic purpose. In other words: A great interview.

Later in March we covered the annual Spring Splash at Sir Sam's ski area. It should be noted that the Sports Editor made it across once again. Including forays at Panorama and Fairmont Hot Springs Resort this makes Gav 52 for 52 lifetime on skis across water. The Spring Splash is a harbinger of spring in the Highlands and of course what would spring be without hockey.

The Red Hawks bowed out gracefully in the Kawartha playoffs, but managed, as usual, a great stretch run.

In April we had a shift change to the OHL playoffs and we began following the fluttering fortunes of Cody Hodgson and Matthew Duchene who play together on the OHL's Central Division Brampton Battalion. The two Highlands products led the Battalion to the Central Division crown. However, they were bumped unceremoniously by the Barrie Colts in the first round of the playoffs.

Fate stepped in and Hockey Canada called both players up to

Sports Year in Review cont'd... pg.15 ...

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# A Taste of the First Six Months

## So Many Stories, So Little Space!

### THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Mark Arike

Staff Reporter

In Haliburton County, there are so many events that help to shape this community. Some are big and require months of planning to execute, while others are put together in a few short days by the efforts of dedicated organizers and volunteers.

And though it would be next to impossible to mention each and every one of these significant and stimulating events in one issue of The Voice, I'm going to take a shot at looking back at some of the memorable events that I was a part of as a roving reporter, newly introduced to the community.

There's no doubt in anyone's mind that the arts scene is alive and well in the County. Arts in this area isn't popular in just one or two mediums, and that's thanks in part to all of the creative local minds who come out into the open with their talents and are brave enough to say: "I'm here!"

In 2008, some of the most talented musicians from across the country and the County were entertaining audiences in various venues with their eclectic styles and charismatic personas.

At the end of May, Alex Bell, owner of Kashaga Moon Productions, introduced locals and tourists in the area to his "Blues at the Delta" concert series held at the Delta Pinestone Resort in Haliburton. The first sold-out show out of its kind brought out the legendary Downchild Blues Band to town.

Due to the solid success of the series kick-off, Bell decided to continue the concert series with blues singer and guitar player David Gogo, who was the most recently featured artist. The next concert in the series will be held in mid-February.

Another brave soul to take a leap of faith in '08 by organizing a brand new, musical-based event was Mark Christiano who is known to many as the organizer of the popular Hair Lounge concert series. At the end of June, Christiano brought with him a large line-up of gifted Canadian acts and some of the most influential people from the music industry that set up a grandiose stage and ran the sound and lighting for the inaugural Riverfest.

Riverfest was a three-day event that brought about 500 people to the Minden Wild Water Preserve in Minden. The festivities were held alongside Gullfest - Whitewater Ontario's Kayaking

Festival. With musicians proud to be a part of such a magical concert in a lush forest setting and crowds impressed by the caliber of talent, Christiano plans on running the event again this coming summer.

When it comes to the music scene, I quickly noticed that the Haliburton County Folk Society (HCFS) plays an integral role in promoting folk music in the County.

Over several months in the summer, the group hosted many open stage nights (which are in full swing now) and brought folk performers from far and wide to the Haliburton Museum for featured concerts.

One of the open stage nights held in June is sure to stand out in the minds of members of the HCFS. That's because Laurie Scott, MPP for Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock, came to the show to congratulate the group on receiving an \$8,000 grant from The Trillium Foundation. The much-needed funds are being used by the HCFS to host a winter folk camp in March that will utilize the surroundings found at Camp Wanakita.

Students all across the County also had the chance to participate in many events that were not only entertaining, but also insightful. Often times, students didn't have to go off school property to be involved with these educational and remarkable experiences.

In the middle of March, Stuart Baker Elementary School (SBES) students had the privilege of meeting and hearing true tales about life as a soldier when Major Ross Cossar of the Hastings & Prince Edward Regiment visited the school.

Throughout his presentation titled "Rebuilding Afghanistan", Cossar reiterated the importance of aiding others regardless of where you are. Through a slideshow, he recalled the many months he spent in Afghanistan, helping to rebuild the war-torn country.

At the end of March, J.D. Hodgson students learned about the dangers of drinking and driving delivered through a puppet show by "A Point In Time Puppet Players".

The show was just one of many put on for local students in the area courtesy of volunteers with the Point In Time Centre for Children, Youth and Parents.

Students at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School (HHSS) discovered the power of decision-making in April when they made the choice to "Party in the Right Spirit".

Hosted by the Haliburton Community Action Group on Alcohol and Drugs (CAG), the one-day event taught students how to plan ahead for prom night, consider the consequences of consuming alcohol or drugs and ways of dealing with sexual decision-making.

Though the event was in its inaugural year at HHSS, Vice Principal Irv Sternberg said that Party in the Right Spirit would

be welcomed back with open arms because of the positive impact it had on students.

Also in April, Free the Children worker Sarah Young came to the high school for an assembly in which she spoke of the work her organization does for those in third world countries. Since students at HHSS had been working hard at raising funds to donate to the Adopt a Village program for the purpose of building a school in Sierra Leone, it made sense to invite Young to the school.

Just prior to the start-up of the summer season, some students graduated to the next level of their studies. Graduation ceremonies marked a very important time in the lives of not only students, but also in the lives of their parents and families. The annual ceremonies give students the chance to reflect on years gone by and also imagine about what the years ahead will have in store for them. The Voice was proud to be a part of all of last year's ceremonies and will undeniably be at many more in the years to come.

A few new fundraising initiatives that drew attention to the generosity evident in this community were organized for those affected by unfortunate circumstances and difficult challenges.

The gripping story of eight-year old Dawson Hamilton tugged on the hearts of many in 2008. For the past four years, Dawson has been in a fierce battle against Leukemia. The Minden boy has undergone numerous operations and procedures in his short life and due to his condition has spent many days and nights in a small hospital room at SickKids in Toronto.

After hearing about Dawson's struggles, a group of concerned community members formed the "Dawson's Dream" committee. In an effort to bring Dawson closer to his family in Minden more often, the committee set a goal to raise \$200,000 to build a home for him.

At the end of June, the committee organized a fundraiser event for Dawson at the Delta Pinestone Resort. The event provided young children with many fun activities to participate in including face painting, a fishing derby and other games. Team Canada gold medalist and Haliburton's own Matt Duchene came by the event to show his support for Dawson and his family.

The event raised thousands for the cause through ticket sales, a silent auction and donors who dropped by the resort with cheques in hand after hearing about the initiative over the radio from Moose FM's live broadcast.

At the beginning of July, the Wilberforce community came together for the first-ever Black Fly Festival fundraiser. The poignant event was organized by members of the Algonquin Gateway Business Association as a way of helping out one of their own.

Back in February of last year, Robert Walsh, owner of the Bostonian Motel in Wilberforce was devastated after a fire extensively damaged her business.

Over 100 people came to the event that was held at the Lloyd Watson Centre, and their showing of support was a true testament to how even the smallest communities can band together to meet or exceed the expectations of event organizers who take on these projects. After the event, organizers said they would like to hold more Black Fly Festivals in the future for others in need.

Back on May 3rd, members of the community bid the day away on various items at Fleming College in Haliburton to generate a total of \$5,000 for economically challenged youth in the area in need of art supplies.

The woman with the vision of putting together the Sissy's Love Connection fundraiser was Janice Crawford of Jan's Hair Affair in Ingoldsby. Crawford saw it as a way of "giving back to her community". Sadly,

cont'd... pg.18 ...

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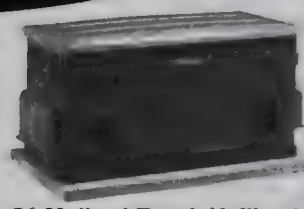
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... from pg. 13

compete for Canada in the Under-18 Tournament held in Kazan, Russia.

The team won the Gold Medal in that tournament and our intrepid reporter Mark Arike made the trek to Toronto to watch the boys disembark from the plane with their Gold Medals clutched tight to their hearts.

Oh there was a lot more. And I will be hardwired to my keyboard here compiling a list of my faves, including a spring filled with high school track and field, for next week.

Until then, thanks for reading and inviting us into your homes each week. We've enjoyed the ride.

Hope you have too. ■

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# Super Crossword

SWEET GNAW-THINGS

## CROSS

- 1 Pugilistic poke
- 4 Silenced a squeak
- 9 Fuel source
- 13 "Turandot" tenor
- 18 Heady quaff
- 19 Savanna sight
- 20 Lhasa —
- 21 Arbus apparatus
- 22 Rodent's favorite Monkees tune?
- 24 Lost in thought
- 25 Nuclear
- 26 Brimming
- 27 Join up
- 29 Take into account
- 31 Hook's mate
- 32 — reaction
- 34 Diva Ponselle
- 36 Moon crawler
- 38 Relative of -ator
- 39 Rodent cheese-cake?
- 45 Laundry problem
- 47 Frigga's fellow
- 48 Young boxers
- 49 Relished a roast

- 51 "Taras Bulba" author
- 54 Emulate Pinocchio
- 55 Brandy cocktail
- 58 Protect with plastic
- 61 Resident
- 64 "Yours, Mine and —" ('68 film)
- 65 Keatsian creation
- 66 Redact
- 67 "The Bartered Bride" composer
- 70 Serenade accompaniment
- 72 TV's "South —"
- 74 Road curve
- 75 Rodent's educational level?
- 79 Dit's cousin
- 82 Read quickly
- 83 Actress Virna
- 84 Peepers protectors
- 88 Oomph
- 90 Tokyo, once
- 91 Like some cellars
- 93 It may suit you
- 94 Closet
- 96 Calculator features

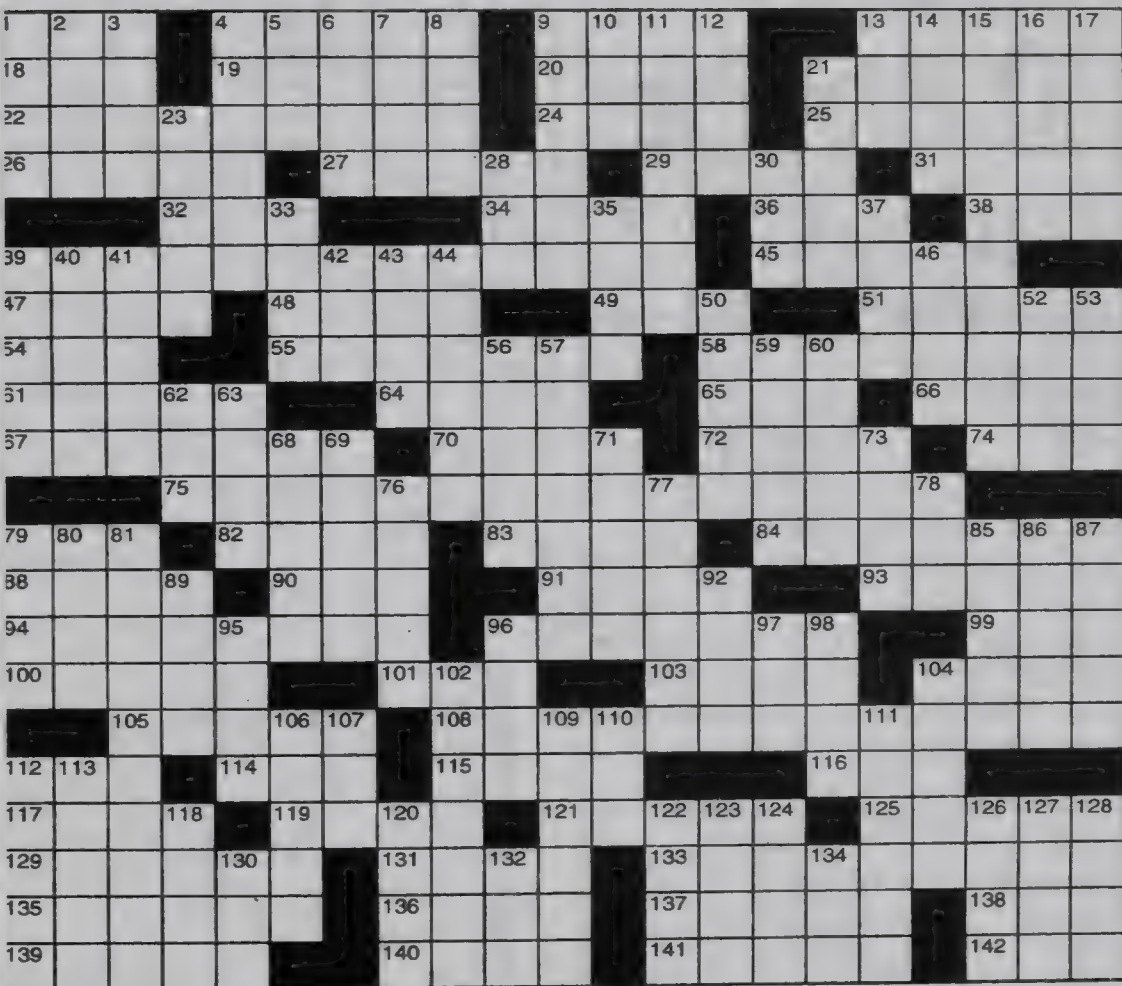
- 99 Winter hazard
- 100 Trattoria treat
- 101 TV chef
- 103 "— Shuffle" ('77 song)
- 104 Seaweed product
- 105 Bobby's flashlight
- 108 Rodent's Olympic motto?
- 112 Broad st.
- 114 "Gotchal"
- 115 Article
- 116 "— Night" ('58 hit)
- 117 Apt rhyme for squirm
- 119 "L'—, c'est moi"
- 121 Matches
- 125 Inception
- 129 Cartoonist Charles
- 131 Writer Charles
- 133 Fictional rodent?
- 135 Rink rental
- 136 List ender
- 137 "Peer Gynt" composer
- 138 Psychic Geller
- 139 Veronica of "Hill Street Blues"
- 140 Surrender
- 141 Big revolver?
- 142 Sticky stuff

## DOWN

- 1 Secure spot
- 2 — mater
- 3 Rosary part
- 4 Speak freely
- 5 Roth —
- 6 Exist
- 7 Temptation location
- 8 Earl —
- 9 Living room
- 10 Antipollution grp.
- 11 "The — Jungle" ('50 film)
- 12 Carry
- 13 Purrfect pet?
- 14 Grandpa McCoy
- 15 Rodent refreshment?
- 16 Pisces follower
- 17 Sapphire side
- 21 Future officer
- 23 "We've Only Just —" ('70 hit)
- 28 Hockey legend
- 30 Urban transport
- 33 Sugar amts.
- 35 Barbecue
- 37 Christmas visitors
- 39 Voting venue
- 40 Turn of phrase

- 41 Sib's kid
- 42 On the — vive (alert)
- 43 Summer coil
- 44 Tristan's tootsie
- 46 Actress Skye
- 50 Take the honey and run
- 52 Mayberry town drunk
- 53 "Why don't we?"
- 56 Sadistic
- 57 In the saddle
- 59 Saying
- 60 Cheerful
- 62 Bk. convenience
- 63 Neighbor of Thailand
- 68 Used the microwave
- 69 Digression
- 71 Prose piece
- 73 Boat bottom
- 76 Atlanta campus
- 77 Indentation
- 78 Mintz or Whitney
- 79 Johnny of "Chocolat"
- 80 Soap additive
- 81 City of rodents?
- 85 Architect Jones
- 86 Window dressing?

- 87 McCarthy's trunkmate
- 89 West. alliance
- 92 Brace
- 95 Asta's mistress
- 96 Snarl
- 97 Banned pesticide
- 98 London district
- 102 Shake up
- 104 Actor's actor?
- 106 Spassky's game
- 107 Pillbox, e.g.
- 109 Bit of a beach
- 110 Medical grp.
- 111 TV's "Eight Is —"
- 112 About to sink
- 113 Screwdriver ingredient
- 118 Spouse
- 120 Composer Wilder
- 122 Prod
- 123 Binchy's "— Road"
- 124 Tend the sauce
- 126 Wallop
- 127 Architect Saarinen
- 128 Small combo
- 130 Gibson or Tillis
- 132 Unbalanced
- 134 Wager



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### Dear Abby

by Abigail Van Buren

DEAR ABBY: How does one convey a message to one's dentist and his assistants that you would prefer they not discuss personal matters with each other while working on me? I recognize that they may be so well-trained that they can converse and do these procedures at the same time. But talking over the patient gives the impression that they aren't fully concentrating on the business at hand. Sitting in the dentist's chair with your mouth propped wide open, it's impossible to say a word. How can this be conveyed in a respectful way? - DENTALLY DISTRESSED IN MILWAUKEE

DEAR DISTRESSED: One way to get your message across would be to wait until the procedure is finished, then tell your dentist that you feel being treated like a nonentity is rude and insensitive, and you would prefer it not happen when you're in the chair. If you don't have the courage to say it directly, then tell it to his office manager. An alternative would be to take your business to another dentist because this one needs to practice better chair-side manners. If that's not acceptable, consider bringing an iPod and listening to it to drown out their voices.

DEAR ABBY: I am a 14-year-old girl. Over the past couple of years, I have grown very close to my 28-year-old cousin, "Amanda." She lives halfway across the country, but we have kept in touch by e-mail and had fun hanging out together last summer. I recently heard from relatives that Amanda is planning to get married in a few months. She has not known the man very long, and he has not yet been formally introduced to our family. Amanda doesn't have much money, so they've decided on a small ceremony with only their parents attending. I'm disappointed that I won't be able to go. I'm also afraid that Amanda and I won't be as close as we have been, since being married is a huge commitment and her priorities may shift. I have tried talking to her about this, but she hasn't answered my e-mails. I miss the closeness we had, and I feel guilty that I'm not as excited as I should be about this big event in Amanda's life. What should I do? - SAD COUSIN IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR SAD: Your special relationship with your cousin is not over, but it has been moved to the back burner because right now she's distracted by her whirlwind romance and planning for her wedding. Once she comes back down to earth, I'm sure you will hear from her. Send her a token gift and a sweet card wishing her happiness. Try to forgive her for not answering your e-mails and accept the fact that she may be distracted for a while. And rather than allowing yourself time to brood, fill your time with activities and friends you enjoy. These things have a way of working themselves out in time. Trust me.

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**Geoffrey Hutchinson**  
(Resident of Haliburton, Ontario)

at Haliburton Hospital on Wednesday evening, December 31, 2008 in his 79th year. He leaves behind his beloved wife Jean (nee McLeod), his children, grandchildren, his sister Anne, his extended family and friends. Geoff was born in Kirkbystephen, England and was the son of the late Larry & Doris Hutchinson (nee Anderson). He came to Canada in 1949 and spent many years working in the Toronto area as a Journeyman Plumber and was a member of Union, Local 46. It was when Geoff & Jean moved to Haliburton, on glorious Eagle Lake, that Geoff was able to enjoy the passion and fun he found in everyday life. Whether it was his unshakeable belief that there had to be a big fish to catch in Eagle Lake, or that the Leafs would make a come back, his nightly sunset cruises brought Geoff great pleasure. Geoff loved Haliburton County and spent the last twenty-five years making it his true home.

#### Remembrance Gathering

A Private Remembrance Gathering was held at the HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705)457-9209. As expressions of sympathy donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHS Foundation) or charity of your choice would be appreciated by the family.

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## Horoscopes

It's in the Stars

BORN THIS WEEK: You have a way of helping people solve their problems, making you a most-respected counselor and trusted friend.

**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) Romantic aspects are high at this time for single Lambs looking for love. Warm and fuzzy feelings are also at enhanced levels for Rams and Ewes in paired relationships.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) This week favors what Taureans dote on - namely, love and money. Look for more meaningful relationships for both singles and pairs, as well as an improved financial outlook.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) All lingering shreds of that recent bout with boredom are dissipated as you eagerly accept a challenging offer. Your positive mood persuades others to join you in this venture.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) You might need validation for a possible solution to a situation involving someone close to you. Consider asking a trusted friend or relative to help you with this problem.

**LEO** (July 23 to August 22) Investigate carefully before agreeing to assist a friend or colleague with a personal problem. There might be hidden factors that could emerge later that will create problems for you.

**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) Your decision to work with an associate rather than go it alone, as you first proposed, brings an unexpected bonus. Be careful not to be judgmental. Allow for free and open discussion.

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) A loved one's health problem could, once again, make demands on your time and attention. But this time, make some demands of your own, and insist that others pitch in and help.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) This is a good time for the traditionally staid Scorpion to plan adjustments in your day-to-day schedules. Be more flexible and allow for more impromptu, off-the-cuff actions.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) Avoid creating unnecessary fuss over a situation you don't approve of. If it's going to work, it will do so despite your objections. If it fails, it will do so without a push from you.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) Working with a trusted colleague could open your mind to exploring some considerations you previously dismissed out of hand. The weekend brings news from a loved one.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) Resolving a recent problem leaves you in a good position to strengthen your influence on how things get done. But continue to encourage ideas and suggestions from others.

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) A new friend suggests an interesting opportunity. But check it out before you snap at it. It might be a good deal for some people, but it might not work in helping you reach your goals.



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Need for February 1st. Can  
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Panasonic 27 inch colour tv  
\$50.00. ARE Tonneau Cover  
for short box GMC pickup  
truck \$300.00. Baby bassinet  
- green & beige in colour  
(used for only 7 months)  
\$70.00. Graco highchair  
\$70.00. Please contact Carrie  
or Ryan (705) 754-3625  
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## Announcements

### The Minden Agricultural Society's General Meeting & Dinner

Saturday, January 17, 2009  
5:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

at the Minden United Church  
on Newcastle Street  
\$15.00 per person

Tickets available from Mary at 854-0335



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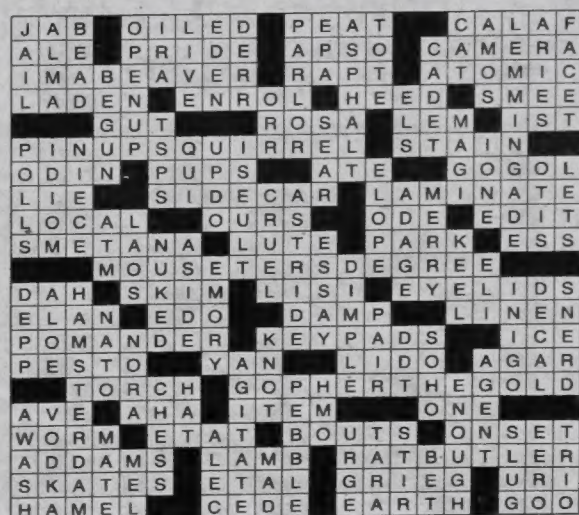
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# Sir Sams Challenge Begins Sunday

## Annual Ski Race Runs for Eight Weeks

Terrance Gavan

Staff Reporter

The annual Sir Sam's Challenge starts its annual schuss to glory this coming Sunday.

It's been running for a long time and it remains a pivotal part of the Sir Sam's Ski Area's family-first raison d'être.

This year's slide to the podium is once again being organized by JD Bishop and Laura Trach, and they are hoping to maintain the high level of intensity and fun that has made this event such a popular fixture at the ski area.

"A total of 336 medals will be awarded over the season in five skiing and two snowboard categories," explains Trach.

The challenge will be running from Sunday January 11th to Saturday February 28th, eight weeks of racing on a course that is suited to a broad range of participants.

It should be noted that the course is always set with a safety-first mindset and that the race is run to accommodate the needs of skiers and boarders of varying abilities.

You don't have to be Bode Miller to run this race. Every year the hill gets entry level skiers and boarders trying the course, and the event is tailor made to provide solid and upbeat support for the novice and the speed demon alike.

Each skier or boarder is met at the finish by the effervescent JD Bishop ringing that infernal cowbell and shouting times.

Medals are awarded on each racing Sunday [and the final Saturday] at the conclusion of the races.

Medals are awarded in the following categories: Men and ladies ski – in age categories spanning 0-8 years; 9-12 years; 13-17 years; 18-45 years and 45 and older. Snowboard medals are awarded to men's and ladies 0-15 years and 16 and over.

A \$100 prize is awarded each Sunday by way of a draw and on the final Saturday all participants who have taken part in at least three of the Challenge races through the season are eligible for a grand prize draw of \$1,000.

"We are looking forward to seeing a lot of familiar faces and hope to have some new ones as well," says Trach.

Along with the \$1,000 draw on Saturday February 28th, there will also be a full table full of prizes donated by local businesses and ski shops.

Trach says that kids under 18 must have a waiver signed by a parent or guardian. There are no exceptions to this rule. Registration will take place this weekend on Saturday Jan 10th in the afternoon and on race day Jan 11th near the Ski School Kiosk on the bottom floor of the chalet.

Again, all participants must be signed in with a waiver before they are allowed on the course.

Trach says that additional registrations on the following weeks may be completed in the Ski School room on Sundays before 11:30 am.

The races start at noon and will continue until all registered racers have completed their runs through the gates.

And like Laura and JD say ... if you've never tried it come on out this Sunday and get involved.

Kids of all ages and skiers and boarders of all abilities can compete.

Course setters are trained in the art of Zen and Gate Maintenance, guaranteeing a great race, whether you like to snowplow or crunch edges in full tuck.

Full bragging rights are on the line every Sunday at the Sir Sam's Challenge.

Be there. Bust a move. ■

...So Many Stories ... from pg.14

Crawford passed away this October after succumbing to the battle she faced against liver cancer for over one year. The fundraiser not only touched those who were there to witness it in person, but it made people take notice of Crawford's selfless personality that will live on through other volunteers who continue her work today.

All of the event or initiatives I have mentioned took place within the first six months of The Voice's inception. It's not an easy task to sum-up all of the events in one article that make this County tick. These are just a few of the ones I either enjoyed, found moving, or thought would have staying power in the community for years to come.

In next weeks' issue of The Voice I will take a look at what has happened over the last six months leading up to our year-end. ■

## Minden Hills in Review

### THE YEAR IN REVIEW



Liz Danielsen

Staff Reporter

Aside from budget deliberations, one of the first serious pieces of business for the Minden Hills Council was to receive a consultant's report on the community's water, sewer and septage systems. Council heard a number of options, particularly with respect to septage treatment and considered whether there was an opportunity to share capital and operating costs with Algonquin Highlands. The consultant recommended continuing with the status quo for the time being. Council recognized the need for more tangible guidelines from the Ministry of Environment before being able to proceed further.

Council also considered a presentation from Darko Enterprises to recycle electronic waste. While supportive of the program, they recommended a County wide approach and asked the company to follow up with the Ministry of Environment to determine their requirements.

During February Council also approved a hike in user fees as well as water rates to reflect higher contract fees and costs to replace infrastructure.

Early in March Council adopted their budget which represented an increase of 4.6% overall from the levy established in 2007. Council also approved a 13 percent increase to their own remuneration which would be phased in over a four year period.

In recognition of an agency whose fund raising efforts touched so many of their residents, Council agreed to review their policy on inserts with their tax notices in efforts to support the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation.

During March, Council also approved the site plan agreement for a much anticipated Canadian Tire store.

In April Council was faced with a bit of a hiccup in their zoning by-law. In the last review of the by-law, the approval process for seasonal residences, which have different construction requirements under the Building Code, had been overlooked and were, in fact, not actually allowed by law. Staff was asked to meet with the ratepayers association and to explore which zones would be appropriate for approval of cottages and seasonal dwellings.

During April Council looked at tightening up their landfill controls, but in efforts to get residents on the recycling bandwagon, decided to allow three clear bags per household to be deposited in the landfill at no charge with additional bags continuing at \$1.00 each.

Council also recommended approval for the redevelopment of the former Silver Birches Cottage Resort on South Lake. The development is expected to become a condominium style year round resort.

The fate of Pritchard House was questioned in April when staff recommended it be demolished. This has been a very controversial issue and in an effort to save the building the Pritchard House Preservation Society made a pitch to renovate and manage it, but Council deferred any decision to a later date.

May brought flooding to the community and the emergency services personnel kicked into high gear and a state of readiness. Frustrations were also high with the Trent Severn Waterway and their management of water levels, but everyone managed to get through the Gull's high waters without an actual state of emergency being declared.

Council were halfway through the year and the matter of feral cats in the Village finally raised its tattered head and remains a frustrating issue yet to be properly resolved.

Overall, June was a very positive month with the approval of Budget Propane's development on Highway 35, an agreement to allow Canadian Flags to fly on the main street every Saturday during the summer, the Clerk receiving approval to perform marriage ceremonies and the contract being awarded for the community's new library. ■

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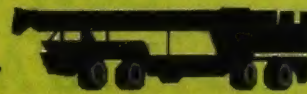
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## Earthweek: A Diary of the Planet

By Steve Newman



## End of an Epoch

The impact humans have made on the surface of the planet has become so expansive that scientists say Earth has entered a new epoch — the Anthropocene. A team from the Geological Society of London made the determination after examining transformed patterns of sediment, disruptions to the carbon cycle and wholesale changes to the world's plants and animals. Members believe humans have so physically changed the landscape that post-industrialized Earth can no longer be considered still in the Holocene epoch.

## Crisis of Humanity

Food riots in several poor nations during March and April caused U.N. and other officials to consider that the growing diversion of grain harvest from food to ethanol fuel was causing a global food crisis. Dominique Strauss-Kahn, head of the International Monetary Fund, says a growing number of government ministers had labeled the impact of bio-fuels as a "crisis of humanity."

## Earthquakes

The year's most deadly earthquake struck China's Sichuan province with a magnitude of 7.9, killing at least 69,000 people. The May 12 disaster forced 15 million people to be evacuated, while more than 5 million were left homeless by destruction estimated at \$86 billion.

Hundreds perished in Pakistan's Balochistan province on Oct. 29 when a 6.4 magnitude quake struck near the provincial capital of Quetta.

Deadly quakes also occurred in southern Peru, East Africa's Great Rift Valley, Kyrgyzstan, western Sumatra, northern Japan, and along China's Sichuan-Yunnan border.

## Nature Overwhelmed

U.S. scientists said that human activity has overwhelmed an eons-old mechanism that Earth uses to keep the atmosphere's carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) content in balance. Writing in the journal *Nature Geoscience*, co-author Richard Zeebe says that the mechanism, known as "feedback," has been thrown out of whack by a steep rise in carbon dioxide emissions. He says the process in which CO<sub>2</sub> is removed from the air by the weathering of mountains and washed into deep-sea sediments has been hobbled by human activities.

## Tropical Cyclones

The worst natural disaster in Myanmar's history occurred when Cyclone Nargis roared ashore from the Bay of Bengal on May 2. The most deadly named cyclone of all time in the North Indian Ocean basin caused more than 146,000 fatalities and inflicted catastrophic damage.

Typhoon Fengshen left more than 1,354 people dead in the central Philippines and China's Guangdong province between June 20 and 24.

Hurricane Gustav killed 138 people across the Caribbean and the U.S. Gulf Coast Aug. 24-Sept. 3.

Ike became the third-most destructive hurricane to ever strike the United States. It devastated parts of the Texas Gulf Coast after inflicting severe damage to Haiti and the entire length of Cuba Sept. 7-13.

## Eruption

The southern Chilean city of Chaiten was made uninhabitable by the first eruption of a nearby volcano in at least 9,000 years. Ash blowing across Patagonia during May from Chaiten Volcano poisoned crops, pastures and water supplies.

## Arctic Meltdown

The Arctic polar ice cap melted at an unprecedented rate, opening up both the famed Northwest Passage and the Northern Sea Route off northern Russia simultaneously for the first time on record. In a trend that began in the mid-1960s, 2008 was the second-warmest year in the Arctic, closely behind the record set in 2007, which produced the greatest Arctic meltdown ever observed.

## Solar Cycle 24

An eerie calm between sunspot cycles ended in early November as four of the first sunspots of the next 11-year period of solar activity finally appeared. The sun had been relatively free of any new spots since the previous cycle ended last year. The new cycle is the 24th since solar observations began in 1755.

## Non-Human Rights

Two separate European nations granted unprecedented rights to members of the animal kingdom. Spain declared that monkeys and apes ("our non-human brothers") may not be killed or arbitrarily deprived of their liberty. New Swiss regulations make it illegal to flush live goldfish down the toilet. Fishermen may no longer practice catch-and-release fishing, and the use of live bait is prohibited. Pets such as parrots and hamsters may no longer be kept by themselves, and livestock such as sheep and goats must have at least "a visual contact with their fellows," under the new laws. A Swiss federal committee proclaimed that plants deserve respect, and killing them unnecessarily is morally wrong.

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Have Your Say...  
VOX POP

During the championship game between Canada and Sweden, we asked people at McKeck's Place in Haliburton, "How closely have you been following the 2009 junior hockey championships? What's your opinion of Team Canada's performance in the final game?"



Bryan Corey, Kennisis Lake — "I've been following it from the beginning. I only missed the bronze medal game because I couldn't get my satellite to work. I did miss most of the first period of this final game, but what I've seen has been pretty good. It's good to support these guys because they are the future NHL'ers."



Don Beer, Toronto — "I've been following it closely, but I wasn't able to watch the game before this one because I don't have satellite at the cottage. I was a little upset to miss it! Since we don't get TSN, we decided to come in to town to watch it and it has been excellent. Team Canada has played with high intensity and we dodged some bullets in the power plays."



Joe Fortin, Bark Lake — "I've been watching most of these games. I think I just missed the very first game. I came to McKeck's because I don't have TV at work. It's been a fun game. It's nice to see the kids out there playing, especially since it's a cleaner game than what you see in the NHL."



Mark Roberts, Haliburton — "I haven't been following it. I love hockey but I just haven't had the time because of work. It's been some good hockey in this game. I do try to watch the highlights on the news so that I'm not totally in the dark."

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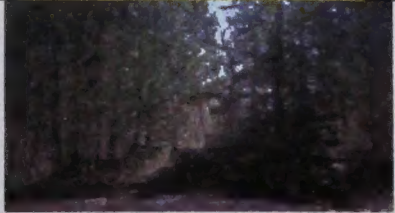
Long Lake \$479,900



Spacious custom-built cottage with MF master with private balcony, twin lofts, open-concept LR and kitchen. 120' ftg. Good privacy, year round road.

Susanne James & Andy Mosher 457-2128

Build your dream home \$9,900



Private well treed 2.28 acre lot located between Minden & Haliburton. Driveway in, building lot cleared.

Kristin Withey 286-2138

Salerno Lake Lot \$229,000



This lovely 2 acre waterfront lot is deep and level with 175 feet frontage in a sheltered bay with a big lake view.

Andrew Hodgson 286-2138

Haliburton By The Lake \$388,500



Custom built 5 BR, 3235 sqft. Vault ceilings, hardwood floors, full unfinished bsmt, 5pc ensuite, MF laundry room, large deck & much more.

Wilf VanLieshout - 457-2128

Kashagawigamog Lake Rd. \$211,000



3 BR, 2 bath bungalow in "ideally located" Ingoldsby. View of the Lake. Steps to lake access. MF laundry, Family rm w/ FP, sunrm, lge deck, garage w/ workshop, & gazebo building.

John Hincks 286-2138

Careful, its Loaded! \$1,150,000



5 lake chain, level lot, big lake view, W. exp. stunning cottage/home, 3 BR, 3 baths, fireplace, gorgeous kitchen, full bsmt & 3 car garage!

Greg Stamp 457-2128

Country Charm \$399,000



Lindal cedar 3 BR, 3 bath home. Wooded setting & stream. Excellent location. Turn key. Vaulted ceilings, skylights, open concept, Jennair appt., fam. Rm. Dbl Garage.

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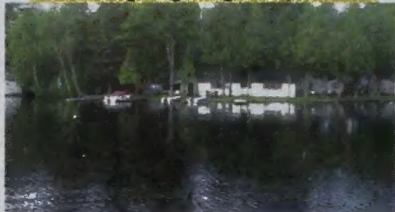
Big Brother Lake \$319,000



Year round 3 bedroom cottage on 5 lake chain surrounded by Crown Land. Separate workshop/studio. Extensive boating in quiet setting.

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Kashagawigamog \$550,000



Resort or Family Compound located on Haliburton's most popular 5 lake chain. Sunset views, 5 cabins plus residence, level lot, easy year round access.

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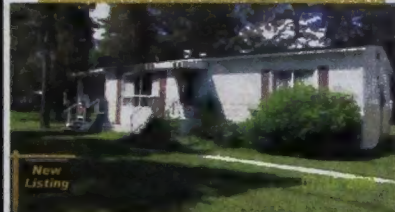
Ski Chalet \$449,000



Stunning new 3 BR, 3 Bath chalet at Sir Sam's Ski Hill. Full finished bsmt & w/o. Top end finishings. Lge wrap around decks on 2 levels. Spectacular view of Eagle Lake.

Andrew Hodgson - 286-2128

Hunter Creek \$83,900



Well cared for home, many upgrades/renos in adult only community. Close to Minden. Maintenance fee covers snow removal, garbage p/u and more.

Dagmar Boettcher - 286-2138

Beech River \$359,000



3 BR Waterfront home, private setting with that "cottage" feel. Sandy shoreline, deep water off dock with excellent access to Beech & Boshkung Lakes.

Tom Ecclestone 286-2128

Eagle Lake Village Home \$119,000



Cute & Cozy 2 BR. Enjoy the beautiful view of the Gull River from the sunroom, close to Sir Sam's & Beach. Walking distance to general store.

Wilf VanLieshout - 457-2128

Charming 3 Bedroom \$139,000



Cozy home with 1 1/2 bath is set on a very private 9.81 acre lot, a portion is fenced to house animals, 30x30 insulated, heated shop is drywalled, also features a bunkie.

Greg Stamp 457-2128

Minden Lake \$364,900



3 BR home/cottage with 167' of waterfront on picturesque Minden Lake. Quiet neighbourhood, great swimming, fishing & near White Water Reserve.

Paul Szpik - 457-2128

Kennisis View & Sunsets \$499,000



5 BR multi-unit property. Enjoy the lake view & sunsets. Pine throughout, skylights, 2 baths & heated garage/workshop.

Mark Dennys 457-2128

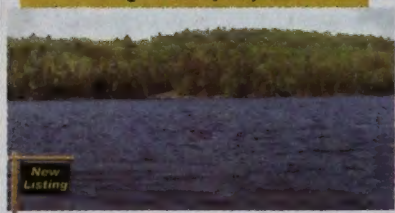
Family Starter Cottage \$329,000



4 bdrm cottage on flat lot offers sandy beach at front deck. Nicely treed lot, clean, quiet smaller lake. Yr rnd rd allows for skiing & snowmobiling possibilities.

Lee Gauthier 489-9968

Drag Lake \$1,390,000



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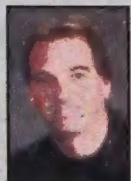
Chalet +5 Acres \$239,000



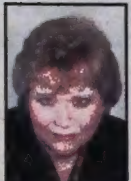
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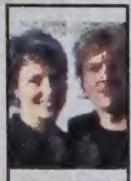
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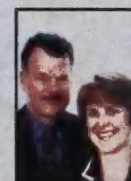
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